Peppa:

OR,

The REWARD OF CONSTANT LOVE.

A

NOVEL.

Done out of French.

With several SONGS set to MUSICK, for TWO VOICES.

By a Young-Gentlewoman.

Licensed, 1689.
JAMES FRASER.

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O

TO THE

HONOURABLE

THE

LADY

ISABELLA ROBERTS.

MADAM,

IT was a confiderable Time before I could reſolve upon a Dedication; but,

knowing that few Books, (and eſpecially *Novels*,) are wanting in this Point, I then preſently fix'd my Reſolution; trod in the ſteps of thoſe that went before; and ſubmitted to the Tyrant Cuſtom. I was not long in reſolving to whom I ought to dedicate it: Your Honour became inſtantly the Object of a Thought lofty, and aſpi-

aſpiring, which hurried me to this Boldneſs. Yes, Madam, you will think it is a new way of being grateful for paſt Favours, to ask new ones: And yet this very Abſurdity do I now commit; but I am ſenſible of your generous Temper, and relying upon that alone, I beg this one Favour more, your Patronage, and

Acceptance of this Virgin Eſſay, the Product of my leiſure Hours.

This piece in all its Deſigns, aims at what is great and generous, and is founded partly upon Truth; many of the material Circumſtances having been really acted at *Genoa* but few years ago: It inſiſts chiefly upon two Subjects; the

the effects of an unparallel'd Friendſhip; and the Force, and Reward of Conſtant Love. It appear'd firſt of all in *French*; and tho now naturaliz'd into our good-natur'd Climat, and become *Engliſh*, yet it has loſt nothing of its *French* Vanity, and Preſumption, but daringly hopes to crow'd into your Honour's Cloſet, there expect-

expecting the happy Time when, Madam, you will be pleas'd to throw away ſome ſpare moments.

Thoſe Readers who have not yet been bleſs'd with your Honour's Acquaintance, may perhaps ſay, This is not like a Dedication, and their Reaſon for it will be, becauſe it is not ſtuff'd with ſul-

ſome

ſome Flattery, and becauſe I have not deſcrib'd to 'em either your Perſon, or Vertues; but I muſt tell them (whoſoever they may be) that I am a very ill Encomiaſt, and a worſe Flatterer: However, rather than Men ſhould go away diſcontented, if in few words a plain undeniable Truth will ſatisfy 'em, they ſhall have it; that your Birth,

Birth, Nature, and Education have conſpir'd together to make you every way truly agreeable, which, tho it has procur'd you the ſtrongeſt Envy of our Sex, it has attracted no leſs the higheſt Admiration of theirs.

One Favour more I importunely crave, that for ſome Reaſons

ſons (which by you, Madam, ſhall be commanded from me at any time,) I may be permitted to refrain the publiſhing my Name in Print; tho really nothing is ſo ſenſible a Grief to me, as that I am forc'd to ſtifle my greateſt Ambition, which is, to declare to the World, the Name of her, who, among all the Crowd of your

your Admirers, is the moſt zealouſly,

Madam,

Your Honour's

Moſt Humble, Moſt Faithful,

And moſt devoted Servant,

A. C.

PEPPA;

PEPPA:

OR, THE REWARD OF CONSTANT LOVE.

Genoa is a City of *Italy*, not leſs famous for its Antiquity than for the flouriſhing Condition it is in at preſent, maintain'd chiefly by a Commerce, and good Correſpondence with almoſt all the Nations of the Univerſe; and is now eſteem'd one of the richeſt Towns in *Europe*.

As this City is very Ancient, ſo there is in it many Illuſtrious Families, and ſome that are allied to Soveraign Princes, amongſt whom, the Prince

Mark Antony Doria made no small Figure, being in as great esteem for his vast Riches and Possessions, as for the Nobility of his Ancestors; and having an earnest desire in these latter Times, to make the Glory of his Family shine out in his own Person, he apply'd his youthful Time and Courage, for some years, in the Service of the *Spaniard*; but not meeting with those Honourable Rewards which his Courage had merited, he discontentedly retir'd to *Genoa*; where, some little time after, he married the Sister of the Marques *Durazzo*, a person of an exquisite Beauty. All People look'd upon this Marriage as very happy, seeing the assiduous care the Prince *Doria* took to please his Wife, who in requital lov'd him with an extream Passion. About a year after they were married, she was deliver'd of a Daughter; but her lying in was follow'd with a Consequence so fatal, that tho all means were us'd, she relaps'd into a great weakness of Body, and, after having languish'd five or six Months, dy'd: The Prince was so sensibly touch'd with this loss, that he withdrew himself for a long time into a Monastery, without seeing any body, avoiding even those very

very persons who were only capable of giving him some Comfort. The little Princess, who was nam'd *Peppa*, was brought up under the Tuition of her Aunt the Marchioness *Durazzo*, who had a Daughter of the same age. The Prince *Doria* led a life very retir'd for four years, not endering to hear of a second Marriage; nevertheless his Relations and Friends did urge him with such pressing Arguments, that having at length determin'd to give them satisfaction, he courted a Lady of the House of *Spinola* It was not long before he married her, but she had never the fortune to be with Child; so that *Peppa*, who in her tender Infancy had already the marks of a perfect Beauty, was look'd upon as one of the greatest Fortunes of all *Italy*.

The Princess *Doria*, now after a seven years Marriage, despairing ever to give her Husband a Successour, found some Comfort in thinking, that she might one day unite the two Houses of *Doria* and *Spinola*, by the Marriage of the young Marquess *Spinola* her Nephew, with *Peppa*; and to the end that she might have the opportunity of preparing betimes the Mind of *Peppa*, she ear-

neſtly entreated her Husband to recall his Daughter into his own Houſe, aſſuring him, that ſhe had an extream affection for her, and that ſhe did now look upon *Peppa* as her own Child. The Prince *Doria* lov'd his Daughter moſt entirely, was in an extaſy of joy to underſtand the deſire of his Wife, and did not delay the ſatisfaction which ſhe deſir'd.

Peppa was receiv'd into her Father's Houſe with all the Teſtimonies of Love and Affection that ſhe could expect from a Mother-in-law, who would be no longer ſuch towards her, for ſhe deſir'd her Husband to let *Peppa* call her Mother; and ſhe would give her the name of Daughter. *Peppa*, who was of a fine Wit, anſwer'd with an obliging readineſs to all the kindneſſes expreſs'd to her by her Mother-in-law. The Princeſs on her ſide did whatever ſhe thought would pleaſe her Daughter-in-law; and being inform'd that *Peppa* was much troubl'd to part with one of her Couſins which ſhe lov'd entirely; ſhe intreated the Marchioneſs *Durazzo*, to permit her Daughter *Julia* to be bred with *Peppa* in the Family of the Prince *Doria*. The Marchioneſs, who had many

ny Children, and could not maintain them according to their Quality, had design'd them Nuns. 'Twas for this reason, that with much difficulty she was brought to yield, that *Julia* should live with her Cousin. Nevertheless *Peppa* wish'd it with so much eagerness, and her Relations, who had a great deal of kindness for her, so earnestly desir'd this of the Marchioness, that she no longer oppos'd it. *Peppa* and *Julia* suffer'd not the displeasure of being parted, and the delights of living always together, contributed still further to the strengthening that perfect Union which was between them. The Princess *Doria*, who had her Interest in prospect, let slip no opportunity of entertaining *Peppa* with the Grandure of the House of *Spinola*, the famous Captains that it hath produc'd for the Honour of *Italy*, and a great many advantages considerable that it had above the other Families of *Genoa*. She added, that she was much deceiv'd if the young Marquess *Spinola*, who had already a delicate Meen, and a great deal of Wit, did not maintain with Splendor, the Glory of his Ancestours. *Peppa* listen'd to the discourse of the Princess, without making

the leaſt Reflection; but in the end perceiving that they made the Marqueſs of *Spinola* be more than ordinary aſſiduous, in rendring her his Devoirs, and that her Mother-in-law, cunningly ingag'd to make now and then Appointments of Diverſions with the Marqueſs, ſhe complain'd to *Julia* of this conſtraint of her Humour, finding her ſelf only pleas'd when ſhe was in her company; and all the means that the Princeſs *Doria* us'd made *Peppa* have the greater averſion for the Marqueſs.

In the mean while, tho *Peppa* was yet but fourteen years old, all that ſaw her, ſpoke of her Beauty with admiration; ſhe was of a fine ſhape, the Features of her Face were very delicate, curious eyes, a fine Skin, and ſhe had ſomething in her Face that was ſo taking, that it was impoſſible to look on her without having an infinite eſteem for her perſon.

Julia was not ſo perfect Beauty, but ſhe had much Spritelineſs, and not a little Sweetneſs appear'd in the whole Cymetry of her Face. She would ſometimes ſay to her Couſin, That ſhe was of a different Humour from all other young Maids, who are always troubled that

that they are not handsome enough, whereas nothing discompos'd her more than to hear the World say she had Beauty; for had she been depriv'd of it, she could have quitted the World without any Regret, and past the rest of her life in a Convent, as she was design'd. *Peppa* endeavour'd to comfort her, by letting her know, that she was not made for the Cloister, and that something might happen which would cause a change in the Will of her Parents.

The fame of *Peppa*'s Beauty was carried over all *Italy*, and that she was the only Heiress to the House of *Doria*. All these reasons oblig'd several Persons of eminent Quality to esteem the Possession of her to be a Fortune that would crown their utmost desire. There was one, even a Soveraign Prince, who desir'd her for his Son, but the Princess *Doria* rais'd secretly so many difficulties, that the business was at last broke off. The Marquess *Spinola*, who found *Peppa* very agreeable, and perceiv'd the great advantages that would accrue to him by this Alliance, made it his whole study to please her; and now through his own Inclination he began really to love her, who till then had but seemingly

done it, out of compliance to his Relations. He perceiv'd that *Peppa* was not in the leaſt touch'd with his Love, which made him reſolve to try, whether he could not take the advantage of the *Carnaval-time*, for to give to his Miſtreſs the moſt publick marks of the Paſſion he had for her. This *Carnaval* is a time of Rejoicing, (or rather, mad Frolicks) in moſt Countries of *Europe*, (eſpecially among the *Romaniſts*), and laſts from *Chriſtmas* till *Shrove-Tueſday* at night, at which time their madneſs ends; for which, during the *Lent*, they ſeem to do Penance: This is ſomething agreeable to an old *Engliſh* Proverb; *Sweet Meats will have ſower Sauce.* But to return to our Marqueſs, he came to all the Balls with a magnificent Appearance. There he danc'd ſeveral times with *Peppa*; and when ſhe retir'd, he took care that ſeveral Violins ſhould always attend her Coach to the Door, and there ſtay the greateſt part of the night. Nevertheleſs, as all things ſeem inſipid to a perſon that has no Taſt, *Peppa* made no returns to his preſſing Solicitations, and acknowledg'd to *Julia*, in private, that ſhe did not find her ſelf at all diſpos'd to receive Addreſſes from

the

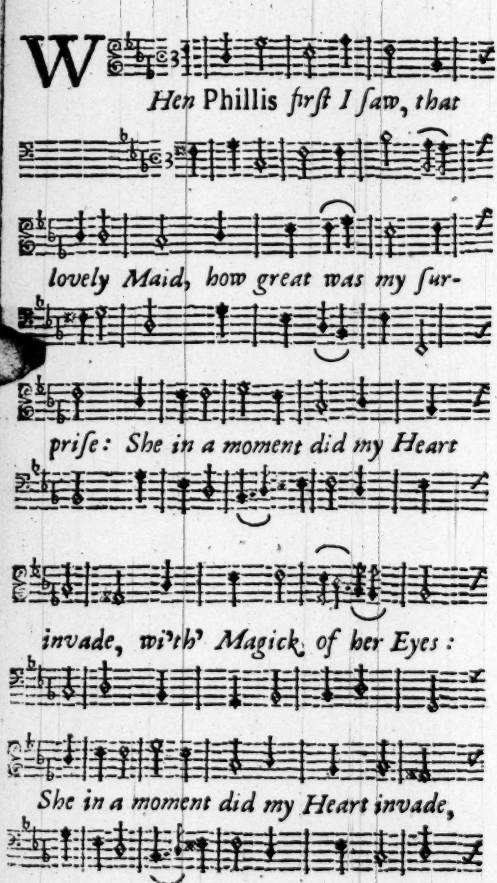
the Marquess, and that she well foresaw, she should be the most unhappy person in the World, if her Parents did oblige her to marry him.

The *Chevalier* of——— and another *French* Gentleman, by chance happen'd to be at *Genoa* during this *Carnaval*, and going to several Balls in Masquerade, as being the Custom of the Country; they, hearing that there was to be at the Palace of the Marquess *Justiniano* a great Feast, which was to be concluded with a Ball, were resolv'd to go thither, disguis'd in the form of Sea-Monsters. It being an unusual sort of Masquerade, every one was strangely surpris'd to see a spectacle so extraordinary, and which frighten'd some of the Ladies; the two Gentlemen perceiving it, they untied only a small string, by the help whereof they slipp'd out of their monstrous Habit, and appear'd extreamly gallant. The *Chevalier* of—— was one of the handsomest Men in the World, and his shape was not less admirable, which attracted the Eyes of all that were present. They both danc'd with a very good Grace, and particularly the *Chevalier*, that the other Gentlemen durst scarce dance after him. All the Assembly re-

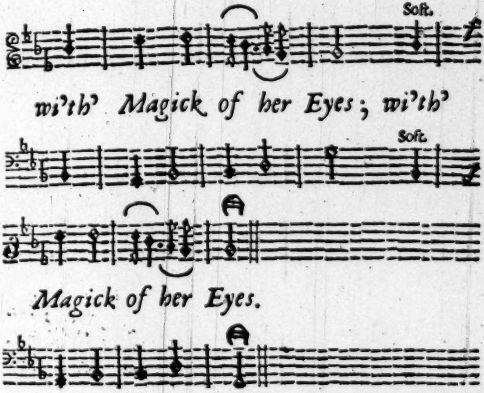
main'd not a little ſatisfy'd, crowning them with all the Applauſe imaginable. The *Chevalier* of—— having obſerv'd that *Peppa* and *Julia* were in diſcourſe with two other Ladies, went and plac'd himſelf by them. The Ladies gave him infinite praiſes, aſſuring him, that they never ſaw a Man ſo gentilely habited, nor that danc'd ſo finely. The *Chevalier* anſwer'd very modeſtly to all their Compliments, but with a great deal of Wit. The Ladies, who knew him not, and were ignorant even of what Nation he was, becauſe he ſpoke very well their Language, were very curious of his Acquaintance. They had all no ſmall reſpect for his Perſon, and the more he utter'd any thing that charm'd theſe Ladies, the more their Curioſity encreas'd: At laſt it came to that, that they deſir'd him to take off his Mask for a moment. The *Chevalier*, who was ſatisfy'd that they did not know him, had the Complaiſance to do what they deſir'd, and let them ſee a Face, which if diſagreeing with the reſt of his perſon, was only ſo by being too handſome. He put on his Mask again not long after, and remain'd ſome time converſing with them. He obſerv'd *Peppa* very attentively,

tively, and thought her the moſt beautiful Creature that he had ever ſeen. He began to take a great delight in being near her, and was juſt about examining all the Features of her Face, when the Marqueſs *Spinola* came to deſire her to dance. *Peppa*, who was in diſcourſe with the *Chevalier*, and not a little pleas'd with it, was ſo troubled at the Marqueſs's Compliment, that, tho ſhe roſe to give him her Hand, ſhe ſcarce knew what ſhe did; and ſhe had not danc'd long before ſhe was ſeiz'd with ſuch a Faintneſs, that forc'd her to quit the Ball before it was ended. The *Chevalier* of—— went out preſently after, and the next morning went aboard his own Veſſel to return to *France*, where he diſcours'd to all his Friends of the charming Creature that he had ſeen at *Genoa*; he himſelf wondring at the ſame time, how he could command himſelf ſo far as to leave her, and take a Reſolution of departing. Notwithſtanding, as he was no leſs skilful in Muſick and Poetry, than in the Dance, he had not the power to withſtand ſome ſoft moments, wherein he compos'd ſeveral Sonnets in praiſe of the fair *Peppa*; among which here is one.

When


When Phillis first I saw, that
lovely Maid, how great was my sur-
prise: She in a moment did my Heart
invade, wi'th' Magick of her Eyes:
She in a moment did my Heart invade,

wi'th'



2.

Approach I did, but with ſo great an Awe,
I trembling ſpeechleſs ſtood:
Unuſual heat did all my Veins o'reflow,
Then chill'd was all my Blood.
Unuſual, &c.

3.

Confuſion did my Reſolution bind,
Scarce could I ſpeak, or move:
Deſpair had took poſſeſſion of my Mind,
And check'd my hopes of Love.
Deſpair, &c.

As ſoon as *Peppa* was alone with her Couſin, ſhe unboſom'd her thoughts to her, and declar'd, That ſhe would never pardon the Marqueſs *Spinola* the ſenſible diſpleaſure he had done her, by his interrupting the Converſation which they had with the Stranger, whom they found ſo obliging. *Have you ever ſeen*, continu'd *Peppa*, *a Man ſo handſome, that had ſo fine a Wit, and ſo agreeable, and that danc'd with ſuch a Majeſtick Air? If we had diſcours'd longer with him*, interrupted *Julia*, *we might perhaps have diſcover'd who he was. I muſt needs own*, cry'd *Peppa*, bluſhing, *the ſight of him has made no ſmall impreſſion in my Thoughts, and not to make any further ſecret of it between us, I cann't but acknowledge, that ever ſince that time I have felt ſuch emotions, whereof till then I was wholly ignorant. In the mean time I don't know him, neither can I tell the Countrey he is of, and perhaps we ſhall never ſee him more.* Theſe laſt words were ended with a ſigh, which diſcover'd, that this Stranger was not indifferent to her, and altho her Couſin gave her ſome hopes that ſhe might meet him at another Ball, yet this hope was too weak to bring her much Comfort. Theſe

two Ladies met at almoſt all the diverting Paſtimes that were perform'd at *Genoa*, during the time of the *Carnaval*. *Peppa*, who found not what ſhe look'd for, was always in a Melancholy Humour, and complain'd ſtill to her Couſin of her bad Fortune. She ſometimes oblig'd her to keep her company the greateſt part of the day at the Window, where they could ſee all that paſt by, without being ſeen by any, flattering her ſelf, that ſhe might at laſt ſee him, who was now become the ſole object of her Thoughts. But notwithſtanding all this trouble for a whole month, it was to very little purpoſe, ſince that the *Chevalier* of——— was now in *France*, where all his Eſtate and Fortune lay.

The Count *Centurione* of *Genoa*, who had been acquainted with him in *Italy*, happening to be at *Paris*, after his return from a Voyage in *Germany*, was over-joy'd to find the *Chevalier* there. He went to ſee him, and was receiv'd with a great deal of kindneſs. It was not above two days after that the Count was in a troubleſome Affair with an *Engliſh* Gentleman. They fought, and the *Engliſh* Gentleman was much wounded; but the greateſt danger was, that they were

were both seiz'd, and as none doubted but that it was a Duel, (which Crime in *France* finds no Favour) their Trial came on. The *Chevalier*, who was advertis'd of it, by a Note from *Centurione*, took this Affair in hand, but foreseeing that they could not escape being convicted, and that his Friend thereby would run the hazard of losing his Head, he thought it not convenient to endeavour any thing from the Judges, who, he knew, lay under indispensable obligations of proceeding to give Sentence according to Evidence; but having understood, that they who saw the Action were People of a mean Quality, he privately search'd them out, and by great Rewards oblig'd them to steal out of *Paris*, so that there might be none to witness against his Friend. This took the desir'd effect, for the Judges finding no proof against him that was valid, were forc'd to acquit him. *Centurione* out of acknowledgment for this generous proceeding of his Friend, would have made him a considerable Present; but the *Chevalier* refus'd it, assuring him, that he was fully recompens'd for that care he took to bring his Affair to a happy end, by the Pleasure

ſure he receiv'd in being ſerviceable to a perſon of his worth. The Count *Centurione* return'd back into his own Country full of grateful Acknowledgments for the generous Action of his Deliverer, having always before his Eyes the obligations that lay on him for ſo ſignal a piece of Service.

In the mean while, the great Diſcourſe at *Genoa*, was of the Marriage of the Marqueſs *Spinola* with *Peppa*, it being look'd upon as a thing agreed on between the two Families. The Princeſs *Doria*, who moſt paſſionately deſir'd it, preſs'd ſeveral times her Brother, and her Husband, to procure a meeting of their Relations, to make an end of regulating all matters: But *Peppa*, who was always full of the Idea of her Stranger, and who, not ſeeing which way to evade this Marriage, which ſhe now was afraid would be too certain, fell into a languiſhing illneſs, which equally put a ſtop to the Deſign of both Houſes; ſo that they deferr'd their meeting to ſeal the Articles to a longer time. The Phyſicians, tho they were ignorant of *Peppa*'s Diſtemper, preſcrib'd her ſeveral things, and through their Advice, ſhe was carried

to

to a Countrey-Houſe, which the Prince *Doria* had at *Sancto P. di Arena*, for a change of Air. *Julia*, who alone could adminiſter any Comfort to her, becauſe ſhe knew her Secrets, did in vain repreſent, that ſhe fill'd her Thoughts with the Idea of a Man, whom probably ſhe ſhould never ſee again, and blam'd her infinitely for reſiſting her Father's Will, who would make ſure to her his whole Eſtate, upon her Marriage with the Marqueſs *Spinola*. *Peppa* reſted ſatisfy'd with the Reaſons alledg'd by her Couſin; but at the ſame time affirm'd, That 'twas impoſſible to alter her Mind, and to drive from her Thoughts the Image of her dear Stranger.

The illneſs of *Peppa* caus'd ſo much trouble in the Mind of the Marqueſs *Spinola*, who now really lov'd her, that his Relations thought it fit to diſſipate his too great care for his Miſtreſs, that he ſhould go and ſee moſt of the chief Towns that were in *Italy*. Of this *Peppa* was ſoon inform'd: And as it would prolong the Marriage, it became a matter of great Conſolation, and from that moment ſhe grew better, and began to ſhake off her Diſtemper: *Julia* forgot

forgot nothing that might divert her, and perceiving that she did not speak so often to her of her Stranger, there having been almost two years gone without hearing any news of him, she instantly begg'd, that now she would banish from her Mind, that fatal Idea, and consider, that the happiness of her Person, and of two Illustrious Houses depended solely upon her own Will, since it was in her power to be the happiest person in *Italy*, and to taste the greatest Delights that any rational Creature can here either expect or hope for. *Peppa* answer'd not a word to this Discourse, which *Julia* took as a good Omen; judging by her silence, that by little and little she would yield to Reason: Her Health, which daily augmented, fortify'd her Opinion, that the Stranger did not now so much disquiet her.

The Marquess *Spinola* was at *Rome* when he heard that his Mistress was perfectly recover'd of her Indisposition. So good News exciting his Passion, through the Impatience it caus'd in him of seeing this charming Person, he thought of nothing but to dispatch his Voyage to *Genoa*: And having heard

that

that at *Civita Vecchia*, there was a Squadron of *French* Ships ready to Sail, which were to put in at *Genoa*, he presently left *Rome*, in company of two other Gentlemen of *Genoa*, who were glad to take the same opportunity, for to return to their own Country. They arriv'd at *Civita Vecchia* the same day that the *French* Ships were to depart. The *Chevalier* of—— that commanded the whole Squadron, receiv'd them with a great deal of Civility, taking them aboard his own Ship. As he had not been ignorant of the Name, and Quality of the Marques *Spinola*, he treated him with a singular Respect. His Table, tho serv'd with all sorts of delicates, was the least of the Entertainment. They often drank the health of Ladies, which oblig'd the Gentlemen of *Genoa* to tell the *Chevalier*, that the Marques had a Mistress, who was certainly the finest person in *Italy*. The *Chevalier* infinitely commended the Beauty of the Ladies in their Country, and confess'd, That being at *Genoa* in the time of the *Carnaval*, he went in Masquerade to a Ball, whereof he related to them the particulars; but that he never was in his life in so great danger

er of taking leave of his Liberty, and
t he was forc'd to ſummon all his
ſon, to reſiſt a ſecret inclination for
very amiable perſon that he had ſeen
at a Ball, whoſe Name he nevertheleſs
had not enquir'd after. He now thought
certainly, that he ſhould never be in
love, ſince that he had eſcap'd ſo great
a danger. After this Diſcourſe the *Che-
valier* drank the Health of the Marqueſs's
Miſtreſs, and to do him the greateſt
Honour that could be done at Sea, he
fir'd all the Guns of his Ship. The
Marqueſs, overjoy'd, told him, That
his Miſtreſs was not unworthy of this
Honour, and promis'd him, that he
ſhould ſee her as ſoon as they came to
Genoa, where they arriv'd ſoon after.

Peppa was over perſwaded by *Julia* to
receive favourably the Marqueſs, altho
ſhe deſign'd to defer her Marriage as
long as ſhe could. As ſoon as the Mar-
queſs was arriv'd, he went to wait on
the Princeſs *Doria* his Aunt, who was
not a little glad of his return. She
carried him into the Appartment of
Peppa, who anſwer'd him with expreſſi-
ons more of Compliment than Love,
to all the obliging things he ſaid to
her. After ſeveral Civilities paſs'd,
the

the Marquess let them know the great obligations he had receiv'd from the *Chevalier* of——— when he was aboard his Ship, with all the marks of Respects that he could wish, so far as to fire every Gun of his Vessel at the drinking the Health of the fair *Peppa*. He then gave them a very advantageous description of his Person and his good Qualities; and seeing that this recital displeas'd not the Ladies, he inform'd them of the Adventure that happen'd to the *Chevalier* in his Masquerade, and how far he forc'd his Inclination to defend himself from being in Love with a lovely Person, that he had seen at a Ball. *Peppa*, who at first found that the Description of the *Chevalier* was very like that of her Stranger, remain'd much disturb'd all the time that the Marquess was speaking of what had pass'd at the Ball, and of all the other Circumstances which so exactly resembl'd her Adventure, that the Company might easily have perceiv'd the disorder that she was in, if at the same time, the Marquess had not turn'd about to speak to his Aunt in private, for to entreat her to find some means to make good his Promise which he had made to shew the

the *Chevalier* his Miſtreſs. The Princeſs, who had a great deal of kindneſs for her Nephew, took it upon her ſelf to obtain her Husband's Conſent; and to accompliſh the better her deſign, ſhe told the Marqueſs, that ſhe would have on the morrow, at her Houſe, a Conſort of Muſick with a Collation, to which ſhe would invite the Ladies of the Neighbourhood, and that he might bring with him his Friend. The Marqueſs retir'd well ſatisfy'd with the Expedient that his Aunt had found out, and did not in the leaſt perceive the perplexity wherewith the Mind of his Miſtreſs was agitated. As ſoon as he was gone, *Peppa* gave an account to her Couſin of all that ſhe had learnt; and as her Father had an eſteem always for the *Spaniards*, and therefore ſhe being educated all along with Sentiments of Averſion for the *French*, ſhe ſhew'd no little trouble that this Gentleman, whom ſhe had found ſo agreeable, was a *Frenchman*. *Julia* acquieſc'd in her Opinion, and added ſeveral ſtrong Arguments to perſwade her from thinking any more of him. *Peppa* promis'd to follow her Counſel; but ſhe conjur'd her once more to lend her Aſſiſtance to find ſome way

whereby

whereby she might see again that dangerous Gentleman, assuring her, that she had no other design, but that of discovering, whether this was the Stranger that caus'd all her disquiet. *Julia* full of tenderness for *Peppa*, and altogether as curious, promis'd to contribute her utmost to satisfy her in this point. They were both busying themselves to find out some means to see this *Chevalier*, without being seen by him, when the Princess *Doria* entring the Chamber where they were, told them, That the next day she would give them a Consort of Musick with a Collation, and that she would invite some Ladies, whom she nam'd to them. She advis'd them to dress themselves with all the advantage they could, *For may be*, (said she) *the Marquess* Spinola *will bring some* French *Gentlemen, that came from* Rome *with him.* *Peppa*, o'rejoy'd that Fortune offer'd so happy an opportunity, whereby she might satisfy her Curiosity, spent all the night with much impatience. She therefore retir'd betimes to her Chamber, and went to bed sooner than her usual hour, as if that would hasten forward the night, and occasion a quicker return of the morning.

ning. Nevertheleſs ſhe found the time very long, and was not a little uneaſie in her thoughts. One while ſhe pleas'd her ſelf to think, that ſhe ſhould contemplate, at leiſure, that dear Object, which before ſhe had ſeen but a moment, and which had made ſo great an impreſſion in her Mind: Then again, ſhe was afraid to ſee him, and repreſented to her ſelf, a train of inevitable Misfortunes, that would be the Conſequence of her reſiſting the Will of her Parents. In ſpight of all theſe Reflections, the fear of being deceiv'd in her hopes, caus'd her greateſt trouble; for when ſhe began to think that the *Chevalier* of——— might not be the Stranger that ſhe look'd for, and that all her aſſurance for it, was but the Report that ſhe had receiv'd of the Adventure of the *Chevalier*, which ſeem'd to be like that of her Stranger; ſhe therefore would willingly ſee him without running any hazard. In this incertitude, ſhe took a great deal of care the next day to dreſs her ſelf with all the advantage ſhe could, and ſhe did not fail in her deſign; for the Princeſs *Doria* and *Julia* agreed, that they never ſaw her in a Dreſs ſo magnificent as ſhe was then. The Princeſs being perſwa-

ded, that she did it to please the Marquess, appear'd extreamly satisfy'd. It is certain, that the richness of her Dress gave so much Lustre to her natural Beauty, that all those who saw her, could not forbear crying out, That *they had never seen so fair a Creature.*

The Marquess and the *Chevalier*, accompanied with several of their Friends, came to the Consort. As soon as they were enter'd into the Ladies Apartments, *Peppa*, who easily singl'd out the *Chevalier* from the rest, was in a great Confusion. She found, however, such infinite satisfaction in seeing him again, that she forgot those Reflections which she lately made. The Marquess presented his Friend to the Princess *Doria*, who receiv'd him with much Civility. They then offer'd their Respects to *Peppa*, who had scarce the Courage to look up. The Marquess transported with Joy, seeing the great splendour of her Beauty, could not hold from saying to the *Chevalier*, That *now he might judge, whether she did not merit the Honour he did her, when he drank her Health at the report of all the Guns of his Ship.* The *Chevalier*, who immediately knew her to be the same person that appear'd

so

so beautiful at the Ball two years before, was in so great a surprise, and beheld her so attentively, that he gave no Answer to what the Marquess said to him. This Affection which cost him a great deal of trouble to overcome the first time that he had seen *Peppa*, was now renew'd; and he found by some private motions of his Heart, that it would be impossible for him to resist. *Peppa*, who sat next to *Julia*, had always her Eyes fix'd on the *Chevalier*: She found him so much to her liking, that far from repenting of those amorous Sentiments she had for him whilst he was yet unknown to her; she reproach'd her Cousin for her having so often blam'd this Amour; and she endeavour'd to make her observe in his person, the new Agreement that she each moment discover'd. The Marquess, who was wholly taken up with the Musick, listen'd to it with so much attention, that he did not perceive the Confusion the *Chevalier* was in, and he flatter'd himself with the imagination, that his own presence might in some measure be the cause of the Joy which added so great a Lustre to *Peppa*'s Beauty. As the *Chevalier* spoke nothing to him in

praiſe of the Muſick; he ask'd him if he did not like it? The *Chevalier* anſwer'd him freely, That *altho he was always a great admirer of Muſick, yet he had not any reliſh for it now, when he had before his Eyes the moſt beautiful perſon of the World.* The Marqueſs perceiving well that *Peppa* had the greateſt ſhare in his Anſwer, aſſur'd his Friend, That the Cuſtom of *Italy* could permit of a familiar Converſation, he would alſo be ſatisfy'd, that her Wit was no ways inferiour to her Beauty. The Collation being ſerv'd up, the Marqueſs pray'd the Princeſs *Doria* to place the *Chevalier* next to *Peppa*, to which the Princeſs eaſily condeſcended, to pleaſe her Nephew. Altho *Peppa* and the *Chevalier* had a ſenſible delight to ſee themſelves ſo near together, yet they were uneaſie in being depriv'd of the pleaſure of beholding one another; but the *Chevalier* not being willing to loſe ſo happy an opportunity, found means to ſpeak to *Peppa*, without being overheard by any of the Company, That he ſaw it was impoſſible for a perſon to withſtand his Deſtiny; and as for him, he never would complain of his, for he was ſenſible, that he was born to adore her all his life.

The

The Modesty of *Peppa* would not allow her to give him an Answer to these Expressions, nevertheless something in her Actions let him know, that she was not displeas'd with what he had said. The *Chevalier* satisfy'd with the progress he had made in his Amour, enter'd into Conversation with the other Ladies, and took care to say nothing afterwards but what every one might hear. The Banquet was concluded with much Magnificence; al ho the *Chevalier* did not believe it had lasted long enough, yet before he retir'd, he had the pleasure to meet the kind looks of his Mistress, and by this mute Language of their Eyes, they fully discover'd the Sentiments they had for each oth r.

The *Chevalier* spent the night without sleeping; the lovely *Peppa* appearing always in his Thoughts, and he thought himself the most happy Man in the World, when that he repass'd over in his Mind, that she had heard him without being displeas'd at it, that even her Eyes had let him understand, that she had not an indifferent Affection for him; but presently making Reflections upon the state of his own Preferment, foresaw, that being advanc'd in

the Service of his King, he could not receive into his Breaſt ſo great a Paſſion, and particularly at *Genoa*, without great hazard of ruining his Fortune. In ſpight of all theſe Reflections, his Amour got the Victory of all theſe Commotions, and he could not tell which way to take a Reſolution of parting from his Miſtreſs. An Order that he receiv'd upon his Arrival at *Genoa* to depart immediately for *France*, put him into the greateſt diſorder imaginable; but knowing how nice the King was in all that related to his Service, he reſolv'd not to admit of the thoughts of deferring his Voyage one moment, altho he probably believ'd, that he ſhould never get ſuch another occaſion, or to agree with her what Methods and Meaſures to obſerve for the time to come. In this extremity he reſolv'd to write to her, for to let her underſtand, the real motions of his Heart: He deferr'd it not till it was day; for having call'd his Servants, he ask'd for a light, and writ this following Letter.

I *Once had the thoughts that I ſhould never be in Love, ſince I had the power to reſiſt its force, when I ſaw you two years*

years ago. I was confirm'd in this Opinion by infinite Arguments; but I had no sooner seen you a second time, when that all these Arguments, which before had appear'd to me invincible, became weak; and now far from endeavouring to preserve my Liberty, I repent of my former Resistance, and I esteem the time past as lost, not being able to comprehend, that there can be a Felicity in this World, equal to that of loving you. A Duty most cruel, but yet not to be dispens'd with, obliges me to return suddenly into France. *I should have met with a far greater resistance, in resolving this absence, had I not believ'd, that that Man must be unworthy of you, who can fail in his Duty to his King. This reason alone makes me go without hesitating, but with a resolution to make a speedy return, to find you out in what place soever you are; to adore you continually; and to sacrifice my Life to a Love that is perfect, and constant.*

He found this Letter exactly conformable to his Mind; but he was in a great perplexity, how to give it to the charming *Peppa*, for he very well knew, that the greatest part of the Nobility of *Genoa* live extreamly retir'd, and

that it would be very difficult to have accceſs into their Houſes, and particularly, near their Wives or Daughters. He fear'd, that if he ſhould commit this Secret to Mercinary Perſons, they would act but faintly in his Affair; and eſpecially in his abſence. He was thus diſquieting himſelf, when that the Count *Centurione* enter'd his Chamber; he began to chide him for his unkindneſs, that he came not to lodge in his Palace. The *Chevalier* excus'd himſelf upon his ſhort ſtay, having an Order to make Sail from *Genoa* with all expedition. The Count perceiving him to be very uneaſie, conjur'd him to let him know, whether he could contribute any thing to his ſatisfaction; aſſuring him, that he would expoſe both his Life and Fortune in his Service. The *Chevalier*, ſighing, confeſs'd, That he had plung'd himſelf in the moſt cruel Affair that he ever met with in all his Life: This oblig'd the Count to renew the offer which he had made him before, adding all that he could think of, to perſwade him, that he ſhould eſteem himſelf the moſt happy man in the World, if he could find an occaſion to teſtify to him his Acknowledgment. The

Chevalier

Chevalier without any further difficulty, made him a Confident in his Secret. Having in ſhort acquainted him with the beginning of his Adventure, he confeſs'd, that he was in Love; and that notwithſtanding he could not prevent his departing, and abſenting himſelf from the only perſon he could love. The Count repreſented to him, the almoſt invincible difficulties that he would meet with in his Enterpriſe; but however he offer'd him all the Aſſiſtance in the World; and aſſur'd him, that he would ſtick at nothing where his Service was in Queſtion. The *Chevalier* ſhew'd him then the Letter which he had writ, and told him, That he ſhould depart with leſs trouble, if he would take the charge upon him, to convey it to *Peppa*. The Count ingag'd himſelf with a great deal of Joy, and promis'd to take ſuch exact Meaſures, that he might rely upon the ſafe conveyance of his Letter to his Miſtreſs. They had ſome other Converſation together before the *Chevalier* embark'd, to whom it was a matter of great Conſolation to find a Friend ſo truly grateful.

Peppa paſt the night with as little reſt as the *Chevalier*: She would ſome-

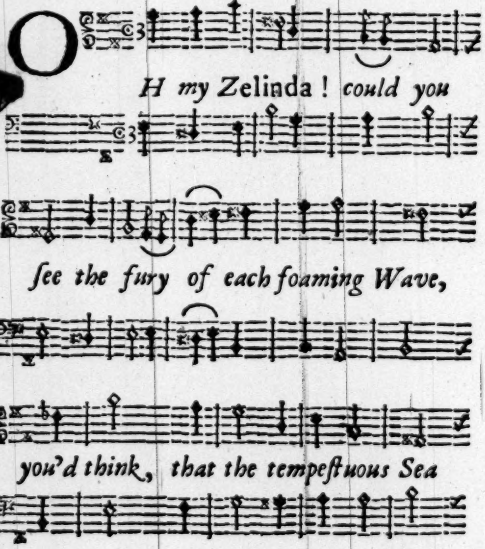
times ſtart as ſhe began to cloſe her Eyes, and then would imagin, that all which had paſs'd the day before, was but a Dream; but when ſhe recollected her ſelf, how that ſhe had ſeen diſtinctly the *Chevalier*, and that he had alſo ſpoke to her in ſuch tender Expreſſions; ſhe found no little delight in repaſſing in her Mind, thoſe very words he had us'd; and baniſh'd all Reflections that might diminiſh her Joy. As ſoon as it was day ſhe went into *Julia*'s Chamber, whom ſhe awak'd, to talk of her Lover. She made her take notice how much Wit was in all his Diſcourſe, and even applauded his Diſcretion, for his having ſpoke ſo little to her in private. *Julia*, either to do Juſtice to the *Chevalier*, or out of Complaiſance for her Couſin, own'd, that if a weakneſs of this nature might be pardonable in a young Maid, ſhe was far leſs criminal than another, ſince the *Chevalier* in all his Actions appear'd ſo graceful. After a long Diſcourſe, *Peppa*, who flatter'd her ſelf, that Love might ſtill procure ſome new means for her to ſee him again, took no little care in adorning her ſelf. She was all the day long mightily diſcompos'd, and, under

ſome

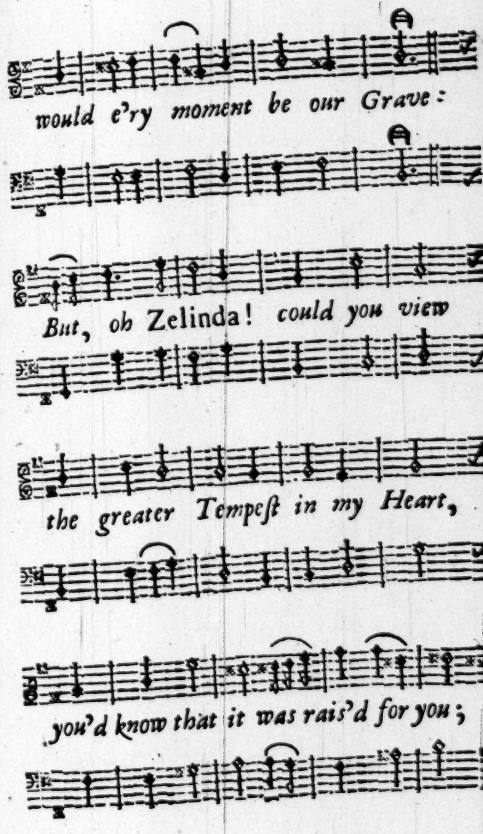
some pretext or other, visited the Balconies, and all the Windows of the Palace *Doria*. She was in this diligent search, when she heard the sound of several great Guns, which mov'd her Curiosity to enquire into the Reasons: And being told, that the Gallies of the Republick saluted the *French* Ships which were under Sail. This news much surpris'd her, because she could not have imagin'd, that the *Chevalier*, after the declaring himself to her as he had done, was capable of departing, without letting her hear from him. She was sensibly touch'd with this appearance of Contempt, and call'd to her Remembrance all that she had heard reported to the disadvantage of the *French* Nation, who had this general Character in their Neighbouring Countries, that they could easily ingage themselves in any Amour, and as easily quit it again, without the least concern in the World. She bemoan'd her misfortune to *Julia*, and in the angry humour she was in, endeavouring to lessen all that was charming in the *Chevalier*, she promis'd her never to think more of this Ingrate.

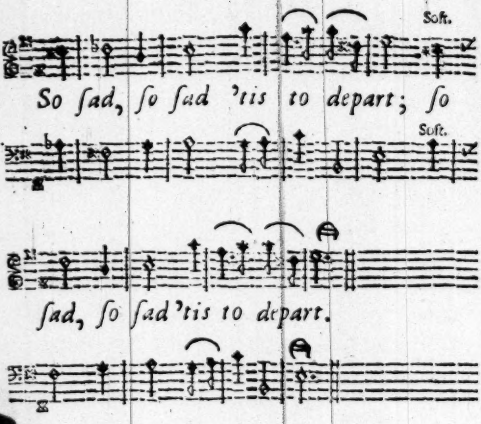
We must now leave the *Chevalier* pursuing

purſuing his Voyage to *France* in a ſtormy ſeaſon of the year, and upon an unruly Sea; but whether that or his Paſſion was his greateſt care, this Song, the product of his ſolitary Thoughts, will beſt teſtifie. He ſent it with the firſt Ship, for his Friend *Centurione* at *Genoa*, who till a long time after, could not meet with an opportunity of putting it into the Hands of the fair *Peppa*.



would


would e'ry moment be our Grave:
But, oh Zelinda! could you view
the greater Tempeſt in my Heart,
you'd know that it was rais'd for you;



2.

Come to my aid ſome gentle Wind,
And thus my Am'rous Meſſage bear;
Tell all the troubles of my Mind,
And whiſper how I love my Fair:
Tell her my Fancy all the day
Doth ſtill enjoy her glorious ſight;
But tell her too, that abſence may
Involve me in eternal Night.
Involve me, &c.

The

The Assembly of the Relations of both Families, which should have met long before, upon the treaty of Marriage between the Marquess *Spinola* and *Peppa*, but which was then deferr'd by reason of *Peppa*'s illness, met two days after the *Chevalier* set Sail. They regulated the Affairs on each side, and resolv'd to have them married immediately. *Peppa*, who could not forget the *Chevalier*, in spight of all his Ingratitude, being inform'd of this Resolution, went presently into the Chamber of her Cousin, where she gave her self wholly up to her Grief and Tears, without having the pow'r to utter one word. *Julia* did what she could to comfort her, and advis'd her to obey willingly her Parents, and not to hazard the Content of her whole life, by a vexatious opposition. She added, *That it was part of her good Fortune to be undeceiv'd of the* Chevalier, *since she had now found by her own Experience, that he never had a true kindness for her. I believe all that you say*, interrupted *Peppa, but yet you must acknowledge, that I am the most unhappy person that breaths, seeing that I am going to be sacrifis'd to a Man that I can never love, when he alone,*

lone, whom I thought worthy of my Love, ſhuns me. The many ſighs and tears, which ſtifled her Voice, hinder'd her from proceeding any further in her Complaints.

In the mean while that *Julia*, who ſhar'd in her Couſins ſorrow, lamented with her, the Count *Centurione*, who was to convey to *Peppa* the Letter given by the *Chevalier*, try'd all manner of ways to gain one of the Women that waited on her. After ſeveral Intreagues, finding that his endeavours to win her to him prov'd fruitleſs, he told her at laſt, as a ſecret, that ſhe might deliver it without the leaſt apprehenſions, ſince that this Letter came from the Marqueſs *Spinola*, who did only deſign to ſurprize his Miſtreſs, and to ſee if ſhe could gueſs whence it came. The Servant being overperſwaded by this falſe appearance, took charge of the Letter, and preſented it to her Lady. *Peppa* ſomething amaz'd at this novelty, demanded from whom ſhe receiv'd it. The Servant anſwer'd her, That ſhe was forbid to tell, but that ſhe would ſoon know in reading it. *Peppa*, who at firſt conſulted only her Honour, refus'd to receive it, but as ſoon as ſhe

was

was alone, she repented that she had let it go, imagining, that it might have come from the *Chevalier*. A hundred times was she going to have ask'd her Servant for it, and as many times her Modesty and her Fear, that it was the Marquess *Spinola* who had sent it, hinder'd her. In fine, after several Irresolutions, her Curiosity, or rather, her Love, got the victory. She sent after the Servant, and threaten'd to turn her away, unless she would declare from whence the Letter came. The Servant, still reserving that as a Mystery, deliver'd it without making her any Answer. *Peppa*, for all her Modesty, had not the power to resist her Curiosity to know what was in it; she read the Letter, and immediately retir'd in private, to abandon her self without any constraint, to all the transport of Joy that this pleasant perusal had caus'd in her. She read it a thousand times, and a thousand times she repented of the disadvantageous Opinion that she had had of her Lover. Her Marriage, which was brought now to a conclusion, was a trouble to her not to be imagin'd. Her Love, notwithstanding, gave her still some hopes to find out a Pretext to defer

fer this Marriage: She resolv'd, ever at last, to feign her self sick, and to make use of all her Address, to prevent this Affair from being concluded. In the mean time she busied her Thoughts for an Answer to the *Chevalier*; which near upon was express'd in these words.

THE Rules of Modesty would scarce permit me to answer a Letter that was so full of Gallantries as yours, but the same Destiny which has ingag'd you in an esteem for me, does likewise compel me to do that for you alone, which I thought never to have done for any. I would therefore have you believe, That your Cares for me will not be unwelcome, and that I shall receive no small delight when I may see you again.

Peppa, supposing that the *Chevalier* had found the safest way to hear from her, was content to take no further care, but only to remit this Answer into the Hands of the Servant who gave her the Letter, not doubting but that she would be faithful in the delivery; her Modesty not permitting her to enquire into the measures that were to be taken. This Maid being prepossess'd, that the Count

Count *Centurione* was of the Plot with the Marquefs *Spinola*, and that the Answer which her Miſtreſs gave her was really for the Marquefs, met him by chance a moment after: She was ſo pleas'd with her Negotiation, that it was impoſſible for her to hide her Joy. *You ſave me the trouble to go any further*, ſaid ſhe to him, in giving him the Letter from *Peppa*. She withdrew without ſtaying for his Anſwer, for fear that ſhe ſhould be ſeen to talk with him. The Marquefs, who knew the Hand of his Miſtreſs, taſted before-hand all the Pleaſure that a paſſionate Lover can conceive in having a Letter deliver'd to him from a perſon whom he entirely loves; but after that he had perceiv'd in reading it, that it was deſign'd for another, and not for him, he was ſeiz'd with Horrour and Amazement, never having had the leaſt thoughts that *Peppa* was capable of a Love Entreague: His Indignation and Anger gave him not leiſure to make any further Reflections; he enter'd the Chamber of the Princeſs *Doria* full of grief, and giving her the Letter, utter'd a thouſand Reproaches, that ſhe would have had him marry'd a perſon who was ſo falſe to him. The

Princeſs

Princeſs ſurpris'd at this fury of her Nephew, and the Expreſſions ſo little reſpectful which he us'd, read the Letter which he gave her. She ask'd the Marqueſs, to whom this Letter was directed, and by what adventure it fell into his Hands. *I cannot ſatisfy you in that*, anſwer'd the Marqueſs, *I know very well that* Peppa *preſerves all her Love for another, whilſt that I am going to marry her. It was one of her Women that gave me this Letter; you ſee hereby that ſhe was miſtaken, and it muſt be without doubt that ſhe was not well inſtructed.* The Princeſs made the Woman be call'd, whom the Marqueſs had nam'd, and after having told her, that ſhe ſhould undergo the ſevereſt effects of her Anger, if ſhe did not declare the truth; ſhe aks'd her the meaning of this Letter. The Woman confeſs'd, That the Count *Centurione* had given her one to deliver to *Peppa*, that ſhe had acquitted her ſelf of the charge laid upon her, and had got an Anſwer, which ſhe put into the Hands of the Marqueſs *Spinola*, believing, as the Count *Centurione* had aſſur'd her, That they were both of Council together, and that it was all one to deliver the Letter to either

ther of them, since that the Count
d no other design, but what was only
r the Interest of the Marques's. This
nswer made them believe, that the
Woman had been deceiv'd. The
rinces's conjur'd her Nephew to have a
ittle Patience, and to let her have
ime to search into the bottom of this
ntreague, assuring him, that she would
e the first that would break off his
Marriage, if she found that *Peppa* held
the least Correspondance with the
Count *Centurione*. The Marques's dis-
sembled, as well as he could, his De-
spair, promising, that he would pati-
ently expect the event, and so retir'd.
The Princes's without losing one mo-
ment of time, secur'd first the Servant,
shutting her up in a Chamber, whereof
she her self kept the Key. She pass'd
from thence into the Apartment of
her Daughter-in-law, and told her as
soon as she came in, That she would ac-
quaint her with such News which would
surprize her. *Peppa* was impatient till
she knew it. *We have discover'd*, contin-
u'd the Princes's, *that the Marques's*
Spinola *is so strictly ingag'd with a Lady*
of Rome, *that it is not in his power to*
marry any other, which makes your Father
resolve

resolve to hearken to the Count Centrione, *who earnestly demands you in Marriage: He gave me a charge that I should make you acquainted with his design, and to prepare you to receive kindly this new Lover, whom he himself will offer to you to morrow.* *Peppa* was wholly surpriz'd at this Discourse which she so little expected. She conjur'd her Mother-in-law, with tears in her Eyes, to hinder the effects of so sudden a Resolution, telling her, That she could not take up a Resolution of marrying a Man whom she had never seen, and hardly knew his Name. *However*, answer'd the Princess, *your Father did not determine this Affair, but upon the consideration that he was assur'd you have a great kindness for this Count.* *Peppa* protested to her over again, That she did not know him, and declar'd, that she had rather live all her days in a Nunnery, than to consent to such a Marriage. *I have never heard*, answer'd the Princess, in a serious tone, *that when one writes kind Letters to any person, they do not at the same time know who they are.* *Peppa* touch'd with these last words, answer'd her coldly, That she knew not what she meant; and that without doubt some

ome perſon, envious of her happineſs, ade uſe of this Contrivance to ruin er in the Opinion of all her Friends. The Princeſs ſaid, She was ſorry that he muſt be forc'd to convince her; nd to let her ſee that ſhe had invented othing of her own Head, told her, That ſhe need only follow her; ſhe brought her to the Chamber wherein he had ſhut the Maid, whom ſhe call'd y her Name, as ſoon as ſhe had open'd he Door; but was mightily ſurpriz'd o find no body. This Maid fright-en'd by the threatnings of the Prin-ceſs, had found means to eſcape out by a private Door that was behind the Hangings, and ſhe left *Genoa* with ſo much Diligence and Caution, that it was impoſſible for the Princeſs to diſcover, whither ſhe was gone. *Peppa*, who was really innocent of any Intreague with the Count, but yet had fear'd the diſcovery of her Affair with the *Cheva-lier*, from the mouth of this Servant, became now more bold, by the abſence of the only perſon that could confront her, and reproach'd the Princeſs for her Injuſtice, in ſuſpecting her ſo light-ly. The Princeſs touch'd with the Re-proaches of her Daughter-in-law, hop'd

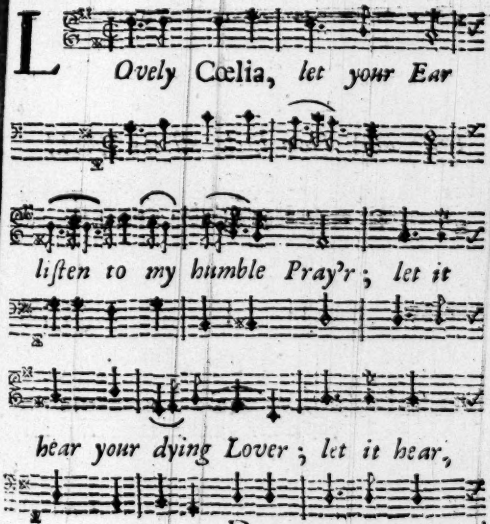
hop'd ſtill to convince her by the Letter that was in the Hands of the Marqueſs, to whom ſhe writ, for to pray him to ſend it her; but it was in vain for the Marqueſs, not being capable of receiving Comfort for the Infidelity of his Miſtreſs, nor of pardoning the Count *Centurione* the Artifice that he us'd to make the Servant take charge of his Letter, reſolv'd to fight him; and having met him by chance the ſame day, he made him draw, after having torn in his preſence, *Peppa*'s Letter, although the Count declar'd, that he was not his Rival, and that this Letter was not directed to him. They fought ſome time with an almoſt equal advantage; but in fine, Fortune declar'd for *Centurione*, and *Spinola* was worſted. This Affair made great noiſe at *Genoa*; there was ſcarce a perſon but what talk'd of it, and ſtrove to ſearch into the Subject of their Quarrel. Theſe two Gentlemen, had nevertheleſs ſo much Diſcretion, that no body could diſcover, that the Daughter of the Prince *Doria* had any ſhare in the Action. The Princeſs inform'd of the Misfortune of her Nephew, and of the Declaration which *Centurione* had made to him before

fore he would draw his Sword, began to believe that there was some Mystery hid in this Affair, and that may be some person, who envy'd the Grandeur of the two Families, had us'd this perfidious stratagem to breed a Disturbance, when they oblig'd the Servant to deliver the Marquess this Letter of *Peppa*'s, whose Hand without doubt they had counterfeited. All the circumstances of this Intrigue, and particularly, the flight of this Servant, confirm'd her in these thoughts; and as one is apt to believe those things which one wishes, she rested satisfy'd, that *Peppa* had been betray'd, and was reconcil'd to her. The Princess was then willing to undeceive the Marquess; but whether that he was not so easie to be perswaded as his Aunt, or that he was asham'd of the advantage that *Centurione* had had over him, he went from *Genoa* without taking leave of any one, and pass'd into the Emperours Army, which was then in it's March to raise the Siege of *Vienna*.

The sudden absence of the Marquess *Spinola* surpris'd every body, and much troubl'd the Princess *Doria*, who hereby saw all her hopes frustrated, and the

Union of the two Families as far off as ever. Her Husband himself was much offended at so extravagant a way of acting, and began to hearken favourably to the Propofals that one of his Friends made to him, which was to give his Daughter to the Marquefs of *Villa Mediana Celi*, firft Minifter of *Spain*, and who ferv'd at *Milan*, at the Head of a Regiment of Foot. He gave him for example, the Marquefs of *Los Balbazes*, who went for one of the moft cunning Polititians that had been in *Genoa* of a long time, who was more affur'd of the Protection of *Spain*, by marrying his Children to the *Spaniards*, than by his long Services. The Prince *Doria* was mov'd by thefe reafons, and promis'd his Friend to confider ferioufly of it. The Marquefs of *Villa Mediana* having had notice of the favourable Inclination that the Prince *Doria* had for him, and finding that *Peppa* was one of the richeft Heireffes of *Italy*, came to *Genoa* in all diligence. The Prince *Doria* receiv'd him very civilly; which ingag'd him to make ufe of all the Gallantries which were practis'd in *Spain*. He walk'd the greateft part of the night under *Peppa's* Window, and in the day never

never fail'd to be at all the Churches that she usually went to; but *Peppa*, who still flatter'd her self with the thoughts of seeing quickly again the *Chevalier*, had the malice never to regard this diligence of the *Spaniard*, who nevertheless did not dispair, but hop'd that in the end his Constancy would prevail. In all his Serenades, Songs were not wanting, that declar'd the strength of a Passion; like this that follows.

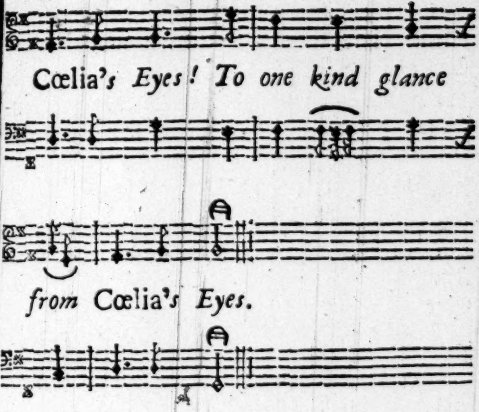


and then diſcover how innocent,

and free I am from flattery. How

little all! How little all the World

I prize, to one kind glance from



2.

Welcome Shores to thoſe that are
Shipwrack'd, and of Life deſpair,
Or t'Offenders Pardon given.
Or to th'Holy Man his Heaven,
Not greater Pleaſures be,
Than Cœlia *kind to me.*
So little all the World I prize,
To one kind glance from Cœlia's *Eyes.*

In the mean while that he forgot nothing that would produce succeſs, the Marchioneſs *Durazzo* took her Daughter home, for to put her afterwards into the Nunnery, whereto ſhe was deſign'd. *Peppa*, who had never hid any thing from her Couſin, and who found a great deal of Comfort in diſcloſing her Thoughts to her without any conſtraint, was ſo afflicted at this parting, that ſhe begg'd her Parents to let her be enter'd ſome time into the Nunnery where *Julia* went to take the Veil; but her Father would never conſent to it, which oblig'd her to lead a life very retir'd, ſcarce going out of her Chamber, and without any other Pleaſure but what the hopes gave her of the return of her Lover. The Count *Centurione* had not fail'd to write to *France*, and to inform him of the Deſtiny of his Letter, and of all that had paſs'd at *Genoa*, ſince he was gone; and even gave him hopes, that if he would ſend another Letter, he would leave nothing untry'd that might procure him an Anſwer. The *Chevalier* ſent him a ſecond Letter, full of paſſionate expreſſions, which ſet his Thoughts on work, how to

o deliver it. The Zeal that he had or the Service of his Friend, ingag'd im to write with the moſt certain romiſes, that he would procure him greater ſucceſs in the delivery of this ſe-ond Letter, than there was in that of he firſt. However, as he knew no bo-dy that had acceſs near *Peppa*, and ſhe leading a life very retir'd, ſince her Couſin was not with her, it was impoſ-ſible for *Centurione* to convey his Friend's Letter to her. He inform'd himſelf of all thoſe, who had acquaintance in the Palace *Doria*, if *Peppa* had not ſome particular Friends, whom ſhe lov'd to converſe with; he underſtood that ſhe lov'd *Julia* very well, and that ſhe would admit of no Comfort for her Abſence. The Count deſpairing of doing any thing for his Friend, re-proach'd himſelf every moment with his want of Induſtry, was afraid, that the *Chevalier*, who had truſted him with an Affair ſo delicate, might either have ſome belief that he kept Intelligence with his Rival; or, that he acted but weakly for his Intereſt, ſince that he ac-quitted himſelf no better in the charge he had undertaken, after he having en-

gag'd himself in the attempt, and promis'd even a fortunate success. The remembrance of the great Obligations that he hath receiv'd from the *Chevalier*, and the generous means that he us'd in his Affair; this put him quite into despair. But when that he consider'd, that the *Chevalier* might with the soonest opportunity arrive at *Genoa*, and come secretly to his House, in hopes to hear some good news, and yet he had nothing to tell him: This last thought put him into so great a confusion, that he could with Pleasure have quitted the best part of his Estate, to find an occasion of being serviceable to his Friend, and to give him a testimony of his Acknowledgment. In this extremity, he took so extraordinary a Resolution, that no example of Friendship can parallel. He had a particular acquaintance with the Marquess *Durazzo*, who was one of the chief Senators of *Genoa*. He one day made him a Visit, and after having declar'd to him in obliging expressions, the esteem that he had for his person, he told him, That he should be very glad to enter into the Alliance of a Man of his worth, and

to

to become his Son-in-law. The Marqueſs, who knew very well the great Eſtate of *Centurione*, anſwer'd him, ſmiling, That his Daughters were not Fortunes for him, nor had that vanity to think of ſuch a Perſon as he was, who could make Pretenſions to any of the richeſt Fortunes of the City. *Centurione* reply'd, That he was not of the humour of the other *Genoeſes*, who in ſetling themſelves, minded leſs the ſatisfaction of their Minds, than procuring vaſt Eſtates; but that for him, he ſhould think himſelf extreamly happy in marrying one his Daughters; aſſuring him, that no manner of Articles between them ſhould break off the Match. The Marqueſs charm'd with this noble Action of *Centurione*, told him, That two of his Daughter were already Nuns, that he had two others remaining at home, one whereof was brought up with the Daughter of the Prince *Doria*, and juſt upon taking the Veil; That if he perſiſted in the ſame Sentiments he already had declar'd, he might conſult with his Friends about it, and returning to him again, ſhould then be able to give him poſitive Anſwer. The Count retir'd

very well ſatisfy'd ; and as he was long before capable of governing himſelf and his Eſtate, it was not difficult for him to obtain the conſent of his Relations. The Marqueſs on his ſide, conſulted his Friends: His Wife, who perceiv'd that *Julia* had no great Inclination for the Cloiſter, was overjoy'd at the Propoſition of Count *Centurione*: She was very ſcrupulous of putting her Daughter into a Nunnery againſt her Will, which made her perſwade her Husband to let her want no advantage, rather than loſe a Match ſo important. The Count *Centurione*, who in marrying *Julia*, was ſure of eaſily ſeeing *Peppa*, and of advancing towards this fair perſon, the Pretenſions of his Friend, return'd to the Houſe of the Marqueſs *Durazzo*, and was receiv'd very favourably both by the Husband and Wife. The Affair being concluded the ſame day, the Marqueſs preſented *Centurione* to his Daughter, and exhorted her in his preſence, to acknowledge all her life time, how much ſhe was oblig'd to the Count, who preferr'd her with a ſmall Fortune, before divers Matches that would have been to him very advantageous. *Julia*, to whom ſuch a happineſs came unexpected,

pected, especially in a Country where the Estate regulates the Marriages, receiv'd the Count with all the Marks of Esteem, and acknowledgement that he could wish, and they were married a little while after with an equal satisfaction on both sides. *Peppa* was at all the Ceremonies, and was so joyful for her Cousin's good Fortune, that she gave infinite Praises to the Count, for the Generosity that he shew'd. The Princess *Doria* who then thought she saw further into this Business than the others, rested satisfied that the Count had been of a long time in Love with *Julia*, and that the Letter which had caus'd so much Trouble to her Nephew, was the hand of this Kinswoman, who writ much like *Peppa*, because they had learnt of the same Master.

The Count who saw *Peppa* every day, finding himself capable of serving his Friend, prepar'd a great Feast in his Palace, and did resolve to take hold of this Opportunity for to speak to this lovely Person in behalf of the Chevalier, delivering into her hands the Letter whereof he had took Charge. And as he was infinitely contented with his Wife, and not enduring to hide any thing

thing from her, he confeſs'd to her one day, after having aſſur'd her of his conſtant Love, that he eſteem'd himſelf the happieſt Man alive, in having married her; but that nevertheleſs he was beholden to one of his Friends for this great happineſs, who had rendred him the higheſt Obligation that ever Man receiv'd. He then told her, that this Friend was in Love with *Peppa*, and that he had ingag'd himſelf to ſpeak to her in his behalf; but that he reſolv'd not to attempt it without asking her Advice. *Julia* ſurpris'd at her Husband's Diſcourſe, counſel'd him forthwith, to undeceive his Friend, and told as a ſecret, that her Couſin was already ſo taken with a ſtranger, that tho' ſhe had made uſe of all her Intereſt to exclude his Memory from her Thoughts, ſhe found it was but to little purpoſe, and that her Couſin was reſolv'd never to forget him. *You did then oppoſe the Intereſt of my Friend*, interrupted the Count? *I doubt very much*, replyed Julia, *whether you know him that I mean.* The *Count* was going to give her an Anſwer, when he was inform'd that two ſtrangers very earneſtly inquir'd for him. He went out to know what they

they desir'd of him, and was some time without knowing who they were. He perceiv'd at last, that he whom he spoke to was the *Chevalier*——who was come to *Genoa* privately in a Disguise, and accompanied only with one Servant. The *Count* was overjoy'd to see him, and carried him into a stately Appartment, that he had already prepar'd for him, and where the *Chevalier* chang'd his Habit for that which was more suitable to his Quality. They had together a long Discourse. *Centurione* gave him an Account of all that had past at *Genoa* since his Absence, and particularly of the Motifs of his Marriage. The *Chevalier* confounded with these extraordinary Obligations which he had receiv'd from his Friend, could not find words capable of expressing how sensible he was of so true a Friendship. The *Count* told him that this very day there was to be in his Palace a great Feast, the Order whereof the Princess *Doria* had taken upon her self to regulate, and gave him also to understand, that perhaps he might procure him the Conversation of his Mistress; but because he had need of his Wifes help to succeed, he resolv'd to introduce

introduce the *Chevalier* into her Presence first, and thereupon he enter'd his Wifes Chamber, to prepare her for this Visit. He inform'd her of the Arrival of his Friend; and after having exaggerated to her the important service that this Friend had render'd him, he prayed her to receive him with all imaginable kindness for his sake. *Julia* who desir'd nothing so much as to please her Husband, promis'd him to follow his Orders, but he assur'd him again, that the greatest piece of Service, and of most Advantage for his Friend, would be to counsel him to think no more of her Cousin. *Let not that trouble you*, answered the *Count*, *may be that* Peppa *is not of your Mind.* He went out without staying for her Answer, return'd a moment after, accompanied with the *Chevalier*. *Julia*, who knew him at first sight, to be her Cousin's Lover, was in so great a surprize, that she could scarce return the Civilities of the *Chevalier*, and complaining to her Husband, that he did not reveal to her his Friend's Name. *Judge you*, answered the *Count*, *whether I had best counsel him to think no more of your Cousin?* A Colour that

ove

overspread *Julia*'s Face, hinder'd her from replying. The rest of their Discourse was of the Feast; They found it necessary that the *Chevalier* should not appear; but that he should remain hid in the *Count*'s Appartment.

The Princess *Doria* and *Peppa* arriv'd some time after at the Count *Centurione*'s Palace. The Feast was carried on with a great deal of Magnificence; and the Marquess of *Villa Mediana*, who would not lose any Opportunity to be at all the Places where he might see *Peppa*, appear'd in a Mask followed by several Slaves, wearing about their Necks Collars, with a Motto in Spanish, which signifies in our Language, *Our Master has no more Liberty than we*; but he was so little disguis'd, that every one knew who he was. *Peppa*, who could no longer suffer the tiresome Gallantries of this Marquess, drew near to her Cousin, and told her, that she had resolv'd to come no more to these kind of Feasts, that she might be deliver'd from the Importunities of this Spaniard, who indeavour'd to infuse Love into her Breast at a Time when she had so much Reason to be afflicted, being separated from her Lover, and

ſtill in an uncertainty of ſeeing him again. *Julia* promis'd her with an Accent which ſhew'd the Aſtoniſhment ſhe was in at a Paſſion ſo conſtant, that if the Picture of the *Chevalier* could give her any Conſolation, ſhe would ſhew her one in her Husband's Cloſet, which repreſented him ſo lively, that ſhe would be ſurpris'd at it. *Peppa*, whoſe Curioſity was very great in any Thing that related to her Amour, conjur'd her Couſin not to defer the giving her this Satisfaction, and of conducting her to this Cloſet. They wanted not a pretence to get out from the Company, and went directly to the Count's Cloſet, where he was alone with the *Chevalier*. Never was any Surprize more pleaſing than *Peppa*'s, when ſhe beheld her Lover. The *Chevalier* caſt himſelf at her Feet, and aſſur'd her, that he would now forget his paſt Misfortune, ſince he enjoy'd the pleaſure of ſeeing the Perſon that in the World was moſt dear to him. *Peppa*, who was unprepar'd for a happineſs ſo extraordinary, was at firſt in ſome Confuſion that her Lover ſhould expreſs himſelf ſo paſſionately in the Preſence of *Centurione*; and ſeeking to

to ſave her Honour, which ſhe imagin'd this Interview might blemiſh, ſhe complain'd to her Couſin of the Cheat ſhe had impos'd on her. *Julia* preſently gueſſing the Cauſe of her Confuſion, told her that her Husband was infinitely oblig'd to the *Chevalier*, that they hid nothing from one another, and that ſhe might declare her privateſt Thoughts before him without any Reſerve. *Peppa* taking Courage at this Diſcourſe of her Couſin, did no longer diſſemble the Joy that ſhe had of ſeeing the *Chevalier*. They diſcover'd to each other all that had paſſed, and gave an interchangeable Account of all the diſturbances they had undergone ſince they had ſeen one another. Their Converſation had laſted much longer, if *Julia*, who fearing that the Princeſs *Doria* would be in ſearch for her Daughter, had not advis'd her to make haſte to return, for fear that ſhe deferr'd it too long, ſhe might be ſent for, whereby that which they deſign'd to keep ſecret, would be diſcover'd. *Peppa* being afraid leſt her Mother ſhould find her in this place, prepar'd to follow her Couſin's Advice, but ſhe made ſo little haſte, that *Julia* was forced

ced to take her by the hand, and carry her away almoſt by force. The Count ſeeing that the *Chevalier*, being depriv'd of what he lov'd, was in a condition which caus'd Pity, engag'd his Wife to make an Invitation for the next day, and directed her chiefly to get a Promiſe from the Princeſs *Doria*, that ſhe would bring *Peppa* with her again. The hopes of ſeeing one another the next day, diminiſh'd the Sore that the two Lovers had to be ſeparated; and *Julia* acquitted her ſelf ſo well of the Commiſſion that her Husband gave her, that the Princeſs promis'd to leave her Daughter with her on the morrow all the day long. *Peppa* appear'd to be in a very good Humour during the Remainder of the Feaſt. The Marqueſs of *Villa Mediana*, who expounded every thing to his Advantage, flatter'd himſelf that his Cares did not diſpleaſe her; and as he had never ſeen her ſo Handſome as ſhe was that day, he all along beheld her with a particular Attention. *Peppa* laugh'd to her ſelf at the vain Cares of the Marqueſs, and was ſometimes ſo malicious as to caſt a Look towards him, but after ſuch a manner as ſhould not give him cauſe to have

have the least Hope; however a *Spaniard* flatters himself much more than another Man, and particularly in Love. The Marquess of *Villa Mediana* imagin'd that he was no longer indifferent to *Peppa*. Upon this ground he writ to the *Spanish* Court, and let his Relations understand that he had the esteem of *Peppa*, and that if the King of *Spain* would take notice of it to the Prince *Doria*, his Marriage would infallibly be accomplish'd.

In the mean while the Countess *Centurione* fail'd not to go the next day to the Palace *Doria*, for to desire the Princess to keep the Promise which she had made her. The Princess who was now very well satisfied with her Daughter's Conduct, and who endeavour'd to put out of her mind by all sorts of Complaisance, the injustice that she believ'd to have done her in suspecting her of a Love-Intrigue, consented without any difficulty, that the two Cousins should go out together, and promis'd within a little while to come to them. The *Chevalier* who expected his Mistress with the highest impatience, was in extraordinary transports of Joy at her coming; and whether the care

care she had taken in her Dress, or the Pleasure in beholding whom she lov'd gave a new Lustre to her Beauty, he fancy'd, that he had never seen her so handsome before.

Although their Discourse was held in the Presence of the Count *Centurion* and his Wife, it was notwithstanding intirely moving and passionate; and as the Business of the State did touch both their particular Interest, they also spoke of that. *Peppa* acknowledg'd to the *Chevalier*, that it was a trouble to her, to behold the Conduct of those that govern'd the Republick, who took no care to put a stop to the Complaints that the King of *France* had made against them, whereof she fear'd the Consequence for the Interest of her Family, and for the further Obstacle that it might occasion to her own happiness. The *Chavalier* assur'd her, that whilst he was assur'd of her Love, the differences between the King and the Republick should never give him any Trouble, since that there was not any probability that so many great Men, which, as he had heard, did compose the Senate of *Genoa*, could think to resist a Monarch who had compell'd some

me of the greateſt Powers of *Eu-*
ope to accept the Conditions of Peace
hat he had offer'd them. *Peppa*, and
enturione approv'd of thoſe Reaſons,
nd the *Chevalier* added, that after all
heſe beginnings of diſorder were over,
e flatter'd himſelf with the hopes that
His Majeſty would give him leave to
eturn to *Genoa*, and to demand *Peppa*
ublickly of her Relations. This lovely
erſon ſigh'd at his Propoſal, and as
he knew that the *Chevalier* expos'd him-
elf to all ſorts of dangers, ſhe conjur'd
im to ſpare himſelf a little for her ſake,
and to think how that ſhe ſhould never
be comforted for his Loſs, and that
herefore he ought to endeavour ſome-
hing in the Favour of a Perſon whoſe
Life was wound up in his Deſtiny. So
much goodneſs piercing the very Soul
of the *Chevalier*, made him vow to her,
that he was in diſpair to think of par-
ting; but nevertheleſs his Honour, his
Duty, and the attendance that he ow'd
to the King his Maſter, oblig'd him
to depart inſtantly for *Toulon*, there to
receive the neceſſary Orders from Court.
Peppa did not diſapprove of his Reaſons;
ſhe prayed him only that he would take
all Opportunities to write to her, and
bid

bid him remember that this would be the only Pleasure she should receive in his Absence. She could not utter these last words without melting into Tears, which so sensibly touch'd the *Chevalier*, that he was ready to dye with Grief at the feet of his Charming Mistress. The Count and his Wife took care to separate them before the Princess came, and were forc'd to deceive them both, for to prevent their Sorrow in taking leave of one another. They told the *Chevalier* that his Mistress was return'd to her Father's, and assur'd *Peppa* that her Lover went away, that he might not be the cause of her relapsing into the like passionate Tenderness. And indeed he departed with his Friend, and return'd with the greatest speed possible into *France*.

Peppa remain'd so full of Grief for the departure of her Lover, that without listning to the Reasons that her Cousin alledg'd, to oblige her to overcome the disorder she was in, for fear lest the Princess *Doria* should surprize her in this Condition, she abandon'd he self to her Grief, and was in Tears at the very moment that the Princess came. The Countess at first was in great

great confusion, both for her Cousin and her self; but she supplied by the readiness of her Wit, the Indiscretion of *Peppa*, for it coming into her mind to hide a little Dog, that her Cousin lov'd very well, she went to receive the Princess in an Anti-Chamber, and told her that he came in a good time to comfort *Peppa*, who was in the utmost affliction, because she had lost her Dog. The Princess finding her Daughter in Tears, told her that her Age did not admit of so much grief for the loss of a Dog, and that it would not be difficult to procure another as handsome as that which occasion'd those Tears. The Countess assur'd her, that she would ingage for the finding him again, but *Peppa* appear'd not the less afflicted, and went away a little while after with the Princess *Doria*. However foreseeing that her Cousin might perhaps send her Dog the next day, she privately pray'd her before she went out, to keep him at least a Week, that the pretence of her Sorrow might remain, lest otherwise the Truth might be suspected.

The Princess *Doria*, who had sent a Man that she could trust into *Germany*, for

for to inform her Nephew of the Coun*Centurione*'s Marriage, and for to clear all the doubts which might have ſtill remain'd in his Mind, receiv'd, about the ſame time, a very obliging Letter from the Marqueſs, which return'd thanks for her kindneſs, and expreſs'd to her the great ſorrow that afflicted him for having diſpleas'd *Peppa*; he intreated further his Aunt to ſpeak in his Favour, and that he would expect an Anſwer at *Venice*, aſſuring her, that he would not go from thence till his Miſtreſs had pardon'd him. The Princeſs, who cunningly manag'd this Affair, waited for a favourable opportunity to ſhew her Daughter-in-law her Nephew's Letter. In the mean time *Don Carlos Bacan*, Envoy from *Spain* to the Republick of *Genoa*, went to the Prince *Doria*, as from the King his Maſter, to intimate to him, that this Monarch declar'd himſelf for the Intereſt of the Marqueſs of *Villa Mediana*; and that he could not by a more ſenſible mark, demonſtrate his good Affection towards the Court of *Spain*, than by receiving this Gentleman for his Son-in-law; aſſuring him, that in favour of this Marriage, he would give him, when Opportunities

did

did occur, all the marks of Eſteem that he could deſire. The Prince *Doria* receiv'd, with a profound Reſpect, the Honour that the King of *Spain* did him, and aſſur'd *Don Carlos Baçan*, that he would immediately adviſe with his Family about it; and that he would ever obſerve that Submiſſion which was due to the Command of ſo great a Monarch. The Princeſs *Doria* was very much alarm'd at this Negotiation; notwithſtanding ſhe manag'd her Husband's Mind with ſo much Addreſs, and gave him ſuch good Reaſons, to let him ſee that the Marriage with the Marqueſs *Spinola* was a thouſand times more fit, and more advantageous for *Peppa*, than with a *Spaniard*, of whom they had no knowledge, either of his Eſtate or Family, that at laſt the Prince *Doria* remain'd ſatisfy'd, and promis'd his Wife never to conſent that his Daughter ſhould marry the Marqueſs of *Villa Mediana*. In the mean while, the Princeſs *Doria* was reſolv'd not to defer any longer the ſpeaking to *Peppa* in behalf of her Nephew, and ſhew'd her the Letter ſhe had receiv'd from him. *Peppa*, hiding part of her Reſentment, anſwer'd her coldly, That her Honour

had been too sensibly touch'd to hear
ken to a Man that had once no
esteem'd her worthy of him. Th
Princess judging it not convenient t
press her any further, imagining that sh
should find some means in length of tim
to vanquish this nice Punctilio.

As the Marquess of *Villa Mediana* ha
writ to *Spain*, that *Peppa* would not b
sorry to have him, and had the vanit
to add several things to his advantage
the Prince *Doria* near that time had
Letter from a *Genoese* that was hi
Friend, who resided at *Madrid*. He
gave him an account, that he had heard
talk of the offer that was made him to
marry his Daughter to the Marquess of
Villa Mediana, and how he also knew
that the King of *Spain* us'd his Interest
in the case; that thereupon he could
not forbear counselling him as a Friend,
that if he aim'd at the Quiet and Satis-
faction of his Family, he ought not to
oppose this Marriage, being inform'd
from good Hands, that the Marquess
had before hand possess'd himself of
the good liking of his Daughter, and
that therefore he ought, as a wise man,
to consent handsomely to a thing that
he could not easily hinder.

The

The Prince *Doria* receiv'd this Letter with all the Regret and Despair of a Father, who has but one only Daughter, in whose Education he has taken great care, and who nevertheless disposes of her self without his share in the Approbation. Not knowing where to lay the blame, he complain'd of his Misfortune to his Wife, and reproach'd her, in shewing her this Letter, with the Liberty that she had given to his Daughter. The Princess had no longer occasion of surprize at the Answer that *Peppa* made her, when she spoke to her of her Nephew. She advis'd her Husband to dissemble his Anger, and cunningly to endeavour to procure from *Peppa* a Confession of the Truth. *Doria* went directly into his Daughters Chamber, and after he had exaggerated the Kindness that he had for her, the Care he had observ'd in her Education, and the Pains that he had taken, not only to conserve the Inheritance of his Fathers, but even to augment it; he told her that notwithstanding such manifest Obligations, he was inform'd from sure hands, that she had suffer'd her self to be led away by the subtilty of a Stranger. *Peppa* answering not a word to

this discourse, her Father continu'd to exhort her to conceal nothing from him and promis'd her, that if she did deal ingenuously, he would pass by all occasions of complaint against her, and would let her see, that he was very indulgent. *Peppa*, softned by these words and prepossess'd that her Father meant all this while the *Chevalier*, he being the sole person that she esteem'd worthy of her Love, thought that now she would make good use of the favourable Disposition wherein she saw him, and casting her self at his Feet, her Eyes bath'd in Tears, she confess'd, that it was true, she did love. Her Father interrupted her, without giving her the time to explain her self any further, and after having reprov'd her with the highest Injuries and Reproaches, he return'd into his Wife's Chamber, for fear that in his Anger, he might be mov'd to any violent action against his Daughter. He was so transported with his Passion, and at the same time so penetrated with grief, that he fell dangerously ill. All means were us'd for his Recovery, which being apply'd in time, did in a little while regain him his former health. His Wife, who every

day

day saw him extreamly animated against his Daughter, promis'd him, that if he would let her manage *Peppa* by a Contrivance to marry the Marquess *Spinola*, that she would take such exact measures, that none should know of it till 'twas done. *Doria*, not enduring the thoughts that a *Spaniard* should force himself into his Alliance, and become Master of all his Fortune, in spight of his endeavours to the contrary, declar'd, that he would take no further care what Son-in-law he had, provided that *Villa Mediana* was not the Man. Soon after the Prince *Doria* being perfectly recover'd, his Wife, with his private consent, feign'd that she had made a Vow to our Lady of *Loretto* for the recovery of her Husband, and declar'd that she would go for to acquit her self of it. *Peppa*, who was very glad of this Occasion, to shew that she was no less forward than the Princess in the care of her Father's Health, declar'd, that it would be a great satisfaction to her to accompany her in this Journey; and they set out so secretly, that only the Countess *Centurione* was advertis'd of their departure.

The Princeſs *Doria* aſſur'd of her Husband's conſent, and prepoſſeſs'd that *Peppa* had not any natural Averſion againſt the Marqueſs *Spinola*, altho ſhe had ſtill obſerv'd ſome trouble in her Carriage, reſolv'd to finiſh cunningly the work that ſhe had begun ſo many years ago, and having ſent a Man in whom ſhe could confide, to her Nephew, who was then at *Venice*, ſhe ſent him word, that it was time to conclude an Affair that the two Families equally deſir'd; that therefore, as *Peppa* was one of the richeſt Heireſſes of *Italy*, and that new obſtacles might probably riſe to prevent his Marriage, ſhe had determin'd, thereby to avoid all Inconveniencies, to bring *Peppa* with her to *Loretto*, to the end, that he might ſeize upon her at their return along the *Adriatick-ſhore*, where they muſt of neceſſity paſs. She added, that it being uſual to ſee Pirate-ſhips ſend their Pinnaces aſhore, and take away by force whatſoever they meet with, ſhe judg'd it fit that he ſhould arm a little Frigat, and that he might not render himſelf odious to his Miſtreſs by this Violence, if he appear'd in it, he ſhould ſend a Pinnace a-ſhore with eight or ten of his Men

Men cloath'd like *Turks*, who might ſet a little before day, a lone Houſe, where ſhe would lodge purpoſely; and that theſe Men, after having carried them away, and led them into their Pinnace, ſhould take care to terrify them by all the appearances of a cruel Slavery, and that the next morning betimes the Marqueſs ſhould purſue the Pinnace with his little Frigat, and after a ſhort engagement ſhould take it, and deliver them: That if he executed all this with Judgment, *Peppa*, that was of the Humour of the greateſt part of young Ladies, who are always overjoy'd to have thoſe that court them, do ſomething for them that is extraordinary, would be ſenſible of the Bravery that he might ſhew in relieving her, and would think her ſelf very happy to fall into his Hands, after having eſcap'd from thoſe of the *Turks*; that thereupon he ſhould conduct her to *Venice*, where ſhe would take care to have a Prieſt ready to marry them, whilſt the Impreſſion of the great Service he had done in delivering her remain'd yet ſtrong in her Fancy.

The Marqueſs receiv'd this Project with all the Joy imaginable, and as

Time and the Advices which the Princeſs had frequently given him, ſerv'd but to make him the more amorous, he prepar'd all things on his ſide to put in execution. The Princeſs always lodg'd at her return in ſmall ſtragling Inns, to bring her Project about. 'Twas in one of theſe Houſes, between *Rimini* and *Ancona*, that the counterfeit *Turks*, ſent by the Marqueſs *Spinola*, put themſelves in a poſture to ſeize upon the Princeſs and *Peppa*, and to carry them off. They ſoon render'd themſelves Maſters of the great Gate of the Inn, and having terrify'd the Servants by ſome violent Actions at their firſt entrance, they run up into the Princeſſes Chamber, who had her Daughter in the ſame Room with her, and rudely forc'd them to dreſs themſelves with ſpeed. The Princeſs, who ſaw *Peppa* very much alarm'd, began to counterfeit a Greatneſs of Mind, and exhorted her to ſubmit to her Deſtiny without murmuring, aſſuring her, (by a kind of a Prophetick Spirit) that Heaven would not abandon her.

The *Chevalier* of——— who was juſt upon going to take a great Voyage at Sea, was deſirous to take leave of his

his Mistress before he imbark'd. He went Post to *Genoa*, accompany'd with one of his Friends; having understood, when they arriv'd, that *Peppa* was gone to *Loretto*, he continu'd on his Journey, with design to meet his Mistress, since his time would not permit him to stay for her at *Genoa*. He happen'd to arrive very late at the Inn where *Peppa* lodg'd that same night that the Counterfeit *Turks* were executing the design of carrying her away. As this Project could not be put in execution without some noise, the *Chevalier*, and he that accompanied him, being awak'd out of their Sleep, started up, and quickly dressing themselves, follow'd them so close, that they came up with the Men just as they were preparing to carry off the Ladies on board of their Pinnace. They charg'd them with that Courage, that these suppos'd Pirates, who did not expect to find so fierce a Prevention, left the Princess and her Women, and retir'd in disorder. However, notwithstanding the Confusion they were in, three of the strongest, who probably knew their Masters Secret, seiz'd *Peppa*, and fled in all haste towards their Pinnace. The *Chevalier* having o-

verheard her Voice, purſu'd them ſo hard, and with ſo much Courage, that he preſently diſabled two of them, and went to run his Sword through the other, when that this wretch fell down, and begg'd him to ſpare his Life, aſſuring him, that he was no *Turk*, but that he and his Companions were employ'd by the Marqueſs *Spinola*, who had agreed with the Princeſs *Doria* to ſteal away this fair perſon that he had now deliver'd. *Peppa* was ſo troubled, both with her Adventure, and with what ſhe heard this fellow relate, that ſhe ſcarce yet knew to whom ſhe was oblig'd for her Liberty. She juſt began to thank her Deliverer in terms full of Eſteem and Acknowledgment, when ſhe diſcerned by the dawning of the day, that ſhe ſpoke to the *Chevalier* of———. Never in ſo ſmall a time was any one remov'd from a great Terrour into a perfect Joy. A moment before ſhe thought her ſelf a Slave, and whilſt her Mind was ſtill poſſeſs'd with frightful Ideas, ſhe found her ſelf in the Arms of a Lover belov'd. So agreeable a change is far more eaſie to imagin than to expreſs. The *Chevalier* related to *Peppa*, that he came to

Genoa.

Genoa with a design to see her, and that not having time to expect her return from *Loretto*, he had determin'd to meet her on the Road; that he arriv'd last night late in this Inn, where his good Fortune had conducted him so opportunely; thereupon he offer'd to carry her into *France*, to secure her from the Violence of her Relations. *Peppa* imagining at first, that the *Chevalier* spoke this only to prepare her for a design of forcing her out of the Hands of her Father and Mother, let him understand, that her Father had some knowledge of his Passion, and told him, that she did not despair of gaining at last his Consent for their mutual happiness; therefore she conjur'd him not to destroy the Merit of the Service that he had now done her. The *Chevalier*, who of all Lovers was the most respectful, threw himself at her Feet, and complain'd of the mean Opinion she had of him, assuring her, that he would rather die a thousand times, than to have the least thought of displeasing her. They continu'd, saying a thousand kind and passionate things to one another, and gave new Assurances, that their Love should last

with

with their Lives. The *Chevalier*, who would not be known by the Princeſs; and who after he had broke her Meaſures, would not have been very well receiv'd by her, deſir'd his Miſtreſs to permit him not to appear, and that after having conducted her ſafe to the Houſe where ſhe had lodg'd, he might remain undiſcover'd, and following her at ſome diſtance, might be her Guard till ſhe came to *Genoa*. *Peppa* acquieſc'd in his Sentiments, and in parting, when ſhe perceiv'd ſhe was juſt arriv'd at the Inn, ſhe pray'd him to remember, that working her ſafety, was employing himſelf for that perſon in the World who deſir'd moſt to compleat his happineſs. The *Chevalier* had no ſooner left his Miſtreſs, but he met immediately the Gentleman who had ſeconded him in attacking the Counterfeit *Turks*. This Gentleman, who had been troubled all this while for his abſence, told him, that he had been careful to attend the Princeſs *Doria*, and to prevent any ill uſuage that might have been offer'd her during this Confuſion, but ſhe ſhew'd ſo little Acknowledgment, that far from thanking him, her diſcourſe appear'd full of Diſcontent, letting him know

know that she was not at all oblig'd to him for his having expos'd his Life for her. This was no matter of surprise to the *Chevalier*, who presently imparted to his Friend what he had discover'd concerning the private Intelligence that was between the Princess and the Ravishers; and the Promise that he had made to this lovely Creature, to be always near, during the rest of the way to *Genoa*, that he might be able to assist her, if there should be made any further Attempt.

In the mean while the Princess *Doria*, whom the *Chevalier*'s Friend carried back to the Inn, and who feign'd in the presence of her Women to be much troubled, was comforted in her mind for the Misfortune which had happen'd to her Nephew's Men, being prepossess'd, as several Persons had assur'd her, that they had carried *Peppa* off. She began already to think of going immediately to *Venice*, to authorise the Marriage of her Daughter-in-Law, by her Presence, and by the Consent of her Father, which she had under his Hand, when that *Peppa* enter'd the Room. At first she appear'd in a very great astonishment; but as Ladies, and particularly

larly those in *Italy*, without any Difficulty at all can dissemble their real Sentiments, the Princess threw her self about her Daughters Neck, and outwardly shew'd an extream Joy to see her escap'd from so great a danger. *Peppa*, who conceal'd also what she had heard, and who was still sensibly touch'd with what her Lover had just related, about his being forc'd to return immediately into *France*, embrac'd her Mother-in-Law, the Tears flowing from her Eyes. They presently parted from hence, follow'd at some distance by the *Chevalier* and his Friend. While they were on their Journey to *Genoa*, the Marques of *Villa Mediana* made use of all his industry to gain the Prince *Doria* over to his side. He engag'd his greatest Friend to speak to him in behalf of his Love, and made him see so many advantages for his Family, and chiefly for his own Person; that *Doria* was vex'd that he had given his consent to his Wife, to marry his Daughter to the Marques *Spinola*; but when that he understood by a Letter from the Princess, the unfortunate success of this Project, he thought that Heav'n would not permit this marriage, since it rais'd so

so many Difficulties, and now no longer scrupl'd to give *Peppa* to the Marquess of *Villa Mediana*, especially when he reflected upon the agreeable surprize this would be to his Daughter, by declaring to her such News, as he did really believe would be pleasing.

As soon as the Princess and *Peppa* were return'd to *Genoa*, the *Chevalier* being oblig'd to be at *Toulon* before the departure of the *Fleet*, quitted this beloved Place, without having so much time as to contrive an Enterview with his fair Mistress. In the mean while the Marquess of *Villa Mediana*, who was satisfied of the good Intentions that the Prince *Doria* had for him, appear'd with a most magnificent Livery, and frequented all the Streets, and all Places where he believ'd he should see *Peppa*. As she was thus importun'd with his Services, she took hold of all Opportunities to treat him ill, and was so malicious as to place her self in the Church so, that the *Spaniard* could never see her Face. The Princess *Doria* being inform'd by her Husband, of the Design that he had to marry *Peppa* to this Gentleman, observ'd several times, that her Daughter-in-Law was always careful

careful to avoid him, and that she appear'd to have an extream Aversion against him. She had much ado to comfort her self for not having succeeded in concluding the Marriage of her Nephew, and this Design running in her Head, the least matter rais'd her hopes. Therefore she gave an Account to her Husband, that *Peppa* seem'd very far from having any Inclinations for the Marquess of *Villa Mediana*. The Prince *Doria*, prepossess'd (as he thought) with the contrary by the confession of his Daughter, judg'd, as all Fathers are easily induc'd to flatter themselves, that *Peppa* us'd this constraint because she would not displease him. This supposs'd constraint so work'd upon him, that going thereupon to *Peppa*'s Chamber, he declar'd to her, that forgetting his own peculiar Interest, and not weighing what would be most advantageous for his Family, he had consider'd only of making her happy, and had determin'd in favour of the good will that she had for the Marquess of *Villa Mediana*, to marry her to this *Spaniard*. *Peppa* remain'd so amaz'd at a Discourse she so little expected, that it was impossible for her to answer one Word.

Word. A Moment after she fell in a swoon upon her Bed. The Prince *Doria*, surpriz'd and troubl'd at the swooning of his Daughter, call'd for help; *Peppa*'s Women ran in to her Assistance, and the Princess came soon after. When she saw that she was recover'd, she endeavour'd to console her by all the ways of flattering and caressing, and at length demanded of her from whence his Fainting did proceed. *Peppa* own'd that she never had a strong Aversion, but against one only person, and that nevertheless she was so unhappy, that her Father had made choice of this very same Person to make his Son-in-Law. The Princess, after having assur'd her that the Prince *Doria* would not use such Violence to her Affections, went towards her Husband, and blam'd him very much for having driven his Daughter into Despair, since that he might have remember'd, how she had already perceiv'd that *Peppa* had no Inclinations for *Villa Mediana*. *Doria*, who comprehended nothing of all this that he heard, believ'd that his Wife, who as she was ingenious and contriving, had turn'd the Mind of his Daughter, and had ingag'd her to prefer the Marques-

queſs *Spinola* before the *Spaniard*, which confirm'd him in the Opinion that he had already of the Inconſtancy of the greateſt part of Women; but he was nevertheleſs in a great Perplexity and Doubt what meaſures to take.

In the mean time, as the Senate did not proceed to any Reſolution to ſatisfie the King of *France*, upon thoſe occaſions of Complaint that he had caus'd to be declar'd to the Republick, the *French* Envoy retir'd from *Genoa*; which rais'd cruel Apprehenſions in the Minds of the greateſt part of the Senators, eſpecially ſince they came to know that there was fitting out at *Toulon* a great Fleet, and that all the Ships were loaded with a prodigious quantity of Bombs, Granadoes, and Mortar-pieces. The Commonalty maintain'd that all theſe great Preparations were made againſt the *Algereens*, whom the *French* deſign'd to exterminate. The greateſt part of the *Genoeſes* believ'd all this to be very probable; beſides they were ſo poſſeſſed, that it was a difficult matter for any State to injure them, that they would never believe that theſe forces were preparing againſt *Genoa*; but the wiſer

which ort who know that Kings do seldom
at he et Affronts go unpunish'd, liv'd in
f the great fears, and were of Opinion that
e was hey ought to accommodate the matter
y and with that King upon any Terms. The
publick Affairs employ'd every Body
e did o hard, and private persons were so
o sa- ssiduous at Council, and at the diffe-
those rent Assemblies that were thereupon
had summon'd, that none had leisure to
pub- hink of their domestick Affairs. The
rom Prince *Doria*, who was without contra-
ensi- diction one of the most considerable of
part he City, was call'd every moment to
they he Consultation of the Senate, and the
cing little Time that he had to himself, ob-
hat lig'd him to defer his private Affairs.
odi- He determin'd therefore, by the Coun-
es, sel of his Wife, not to fix upon any
lty Resolution about the Marriage of his
pa- Daughter, while this Business which con-
ni, cern'd the publick was not fully de-
mi- cided.

Ge- While the Affairs of *Genoa* were in
ro- his Condition, *Peppa* liv'd in continu-
ed, al fears, encompass'd with her Ene-
ny mies, under the Authority of a Father,
ld who would sacrifice her to a *Spaniard*,
re and under a Mother-in-Law, who me-
er ditated new Projects to betray her to
rt the

the Marqueſs *Spinola*. Every thing was ſuſpected by her, and at laſt the publick Calamity became her private conſolation; for the formidable Fleet that the *French* fitted out, and the juſt occaſions of Complaint that the King had againſt the *Genoeſes*, though a matter of diſquiet to all, was the only Subject of her joy, and the only thing that nouriſh'd her Hopes, becauſe that if the *French* King became Maſter of *Genoa*, ſhe ſhould then have the Pleaſure, by loving the *Chevalier* of —— to be aſſur'd before-hand of a Powerful Protector for her Family. As ſhe could not find one Perſon but what ſpoke againſt the *French*, ſhe avoided all Converſation: Her Couſin to whom ſhe diſclos'd her moſt ſecret thoughts, was the only Perſon that ſhe thought endued with Reaſon, ſince ſhe condemn'd not the *French*.

Much about that time they heard that the *Divan* of *Algiers*, more cunning then the Senate of *Genoa*, had made his Peace with the King, without ſtaying for new Marks of his Anger, and that he had already ſent away Embaſſadours, to ask this Monarch Pardon for what was paſt. This news put the

Genoeſes

Genoeſes quite into Deſpair, no longer doubting but that the Storm which was gather'd about *Toulon*, would fall upon their City. The Senate aſſembled at all Hours in the Day; at every turn they were making new Propoſitions, but never came to any Concluſion. The Wiſeſt were of Opinion that it was beſt to ſend away Poſt an Embaſſador to make their Submiſſion to the King; others judg'd that it was too late. The Envoy of *Spain* hereupon arriv'd, promis'd them that they ſhould not want a Fleet bravely mann'd, nor a Warlike Army: And he would ſend for all the Gold of *Peru* for their Service. Although their Counſels were very different, they receiv'd however a *Spaniſh* Regiment into the City, which the Governour of *Millan* ſent thither. They alſo recall'd all the Bandits, and as much as the Confuſion (wherein they were) would permit them, they diſtributed through all Parts ſuch Orders as were neceſſary to put them in a Condition of making a vigorous Reſiſtance. In the mean time the moſt conſiderable Perſons of the City, ſent their Wives and Children to *Millan*,

and

and to the other neighbouring Villages. The Prince *Doria*, after having most tenderly embrac'd his Wife and his Daughter, would also have them take their Leave of *Genoa*, and gave them an Equipage more numerous than magnificent. He advis'd the Princess his Wife to retire either to *Millan*, or to *Turin*, which she thought most convenient; and above all things recommended his Daughter to her Care. The Princess *Doria*, who had still a design for her Nephew, and who fear'd the Authority of the Marquess of *Villa Mediana*, would not therefore go to *Millan*, lest she should deliver herself up into the Hands of the *Spaniards*. She retir'd to *Turin*, where she had some Relations, believing as she had Reason, that she should there have her Liberty more than at *Millan*. Soon after her Arrival, she writ to the Marquess *Spinola*, who was still at *Venice*, sending him Word that she impatiently expected him.

The Court of *Savoy*, which is without contradiction one of the most polite in all *Europe*, has been an inviolable

ble Sanctuary for the Illustrious Unfortunate. It would be even a difficult matter to find a Stranger that was ever discontented with his Reception at *Turin*. The Officers of the *Portuguese* Fleet can testify, whether *Victor Amadeus* the Second, who now Reigns in *Savoy* and *Piedmont*, has degenerated from the Magnificency of his Ancestors; and of late, the Officers of the King of *France*'s Houshold, retir'd from *Chambray*, loaden with Presents, and so extreamly satisfy'd with their acting after an obliging manner, which doubl'd their value, that at their return, there was not one but what spoke the Elogies of the Duke of *Savoy*. This Prince had just espous'd *Madamoiselle*, the Offspring of many Kings, and to speak in a word, Daughter to *Monsieur* of *France*. Upon the Princess *Doria*'s arriving at *Turin*, the Duke, who knew her Merit and Quality, receiv'd her with all the marks of Esteem that she could wish or expect, and offer'd her very obligingly, all that was in his Power. *Peppa*, who did not want the Assistance of her Birth, to gain the Respects of all whereso'ever she appear'd, was regarded by all the Nobility with Admira-

Admiration. The Ladies perhaps could not see her without some Jealousie, whereof there was no great cause of wonder. Nevertheless she was not at any of the Diversions that the Duke of *Savoy* had prepar'd at the arrival of the Dutchess, because the Princess *Doria* pretended to a Preheminence which could not be granted her, without Injustice to several Ladies of extraordinary Quality, who were at the Court of *Savoy*. The Nobility, who would have been very glad to have seen *Peppa* at all the Entertainments, propos'd several Expedients, to satisfy the Princess *Doria*; but as it is much more easie to regulate the Interests of Princes, than the Ranks of Ladies, they found it impossible to bring it to a Conclusion. The disorder of the Affairs at *Genoa* serv'd well enough for a Pretence to excuse her absence from the Diversions of the Court; for there came news, that the *French* Fleet was before *Genoa*, that several Voluntiers had landed, and that after having made themselves Masters of the Fort of St. *Peter di Arena*, they had burnt those fine Country-Houses which were the Delight of the *Genoeses*; that the Frigats warping close to the City,

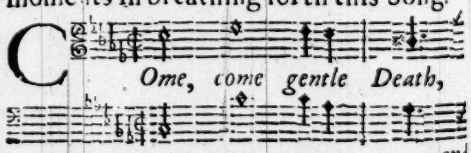
had

had cast into it such a prodigious quantity of Bombs and Granado's, that it appear'd rather a *Mount-Etna* cover'd with Flames, than that *Genoa* which was nam'd *Genoa la superba*; and in fine, that the Consternation was so great, that several Families retir'd to the Mountains, and abandon'd both their Goods and their Houses; esteeming themselves happy if they could secure their persons safe, as well from the Fire, as from the Banditti, who began to pillage the City. There was added to all these Circumstances, that the *French* had lost several Voluntiers at their landing before the Fort of St. *Peter di Arena*, aud that also a *Chevalier* of a very great worth, who was one of the most considerable Officers of the Fleet had been kill'd upon the place; and that he was generally lamented by all the Army. All this news was a sensible affliction to the Princess *Doria*; but when that *Peppa* was inform'd of the loss that the *French* had receiv'd, and of the death of a *Chevalier*, who was a person very deserving; her Love, which at this Report was allarm'd, made her tremble for the Life of her Lover, and all the Circumstances that she had heard of the Merit of this Chevalier, and of the

sorrow that every body shew'd for his loss, encreas'd her Terrour. She privately retir'd, and before-hand gave her self wholly up to all the Emotions of Grief, which a person that loves tenderly can be capable of at such a time. She past over two whole days without mitigating in the least her trouble: Her Grief oppress'd her in a very high degree, and altho she had still a small spark of hopes left her, believing that there must be several Officers of Merit in so great a Fleet as this of the King's, she durst not however enquire of the Particulars of the News, fancying that whatsoever she should hear spoke of the *Chevalier* that was dead could be apply'd to none but her Lover. The Princess *Doria*, who would not be comforted for the Misfortunes wherewith her Country was oppress'd, had not observ'd the great Disturbance that *Peppa* lay under. But seeing that she came not out to receive the Ladies that visited them, she sent to her to come into her Chamber for to hear the reading of a long News-Letter in the presence of several persons, giving an account of all that had pass'd at *Genoa*. Although *Peppa* had resolv'd to prefer the cruellest troubles wherein she was, before the clearing her

her Doubts, which might prove either very Tragical, or elſe very pleaſing, yet ſhe could not reſiſt her timerous and preſſing Curioſity to be inform'd of the deſtiny of her Lover. She enter'd her Mother-in-laws Chamber, where ſhe found ſeveral Ladies who impatiently expected her, but rather for to know the particulars of the Affairs of *Genoa*. The Princeſs *Doria* read her Letter, which confirm'd all that ſhe had heard before at *Turin*. They ſent her word, after the ſeveral Circumſtances of the *French* landing, that they had loſt upon the ſpot, ſeveral Officers, and that above all, they were extreamly afflicted for the loſs of the *Chevalier de Lhery*, who was a Gentleman much eſteem'd, and who upon all occaſions had given proof of his Valour and Conduct. This name which ſounded like that of the *Chevalier* of———, whether or no it was ill ſpelt in the Letter, or that the Princeſs pronounc'd it not well in *Italian*, caſt *Peppa* into ſuch an exceſs of Grief, that it depriv'd her of her Senſes. She underſtood it to be the *Chevalier* of———, and at the ſame moment ſhe fainted away upon a Couch where ſhe ſat. The Ladies ran to her aſſiſtance, but had no ſuſpicion that the loſs of the

French was the cauſe of her fainting, being perſwaded that *Peppa*, touch'd with the Relation of ſo many Misfortunes, whereof the *French* Fleet had been the occaſion at *Genoa*, was thereupon ſeiz'd with this weakneſs. They had much ado to recover her, and were forc'd at laſt to call her Women to her, who having quickly undreſs'd her, put her to Bed. She was pierc'd to the Heart with this cruel News, and fell into ſo violent a diſorder, that ſhe ſpent ſeveral days with a careleſs Indifference for every thing, and almoſt without any viſible Senſe; and if there was ſometimes a ſmall interval from her exceſs of Grief, 'twas only to make her the more tormentingly ſenſible of her loſs. She reprov'd her ſelf, for her (as ſhe thought) Indifference, for having ſtill had the Courage to live, ſince ſhe could no longer doubt the death of her Lover; ſhe continu'd many days in theſe cruel agonies, but at laſt, the force of her Youth ſurmounted ſo far that of her Grief, as to permit her, when ſhe had no Company in her Chamber, to paſs ſome melancholy moments in breathing forth this Song.



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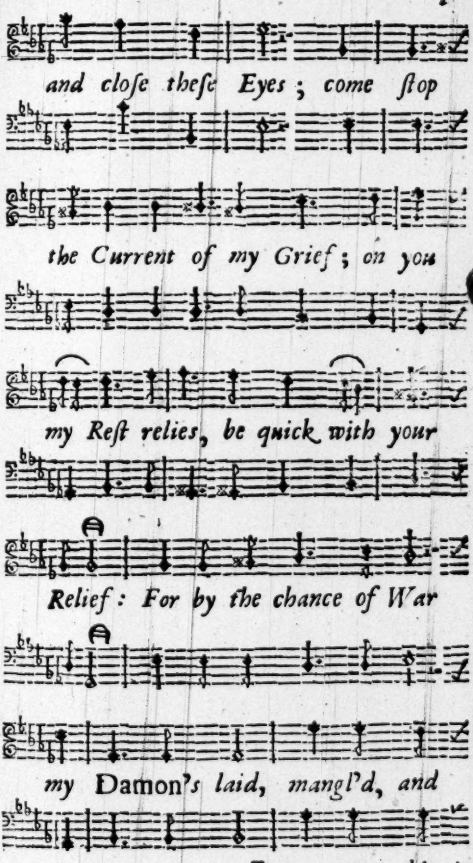
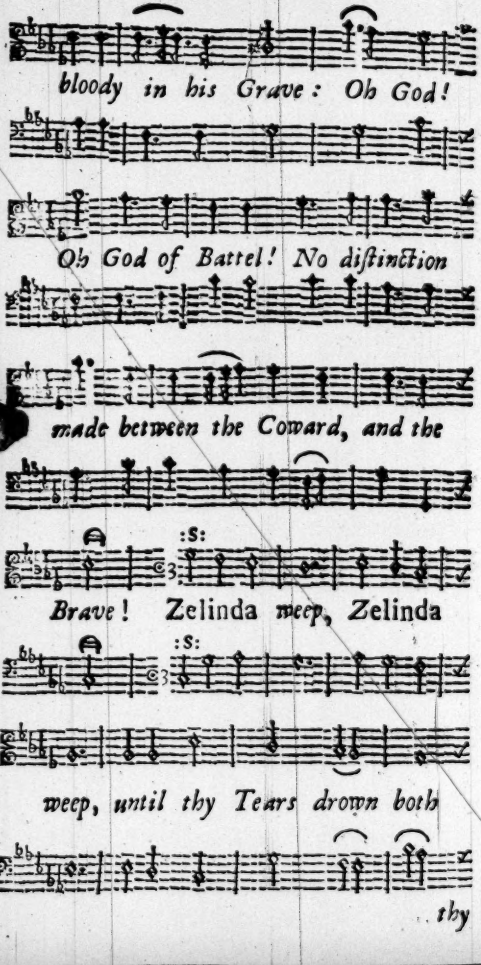
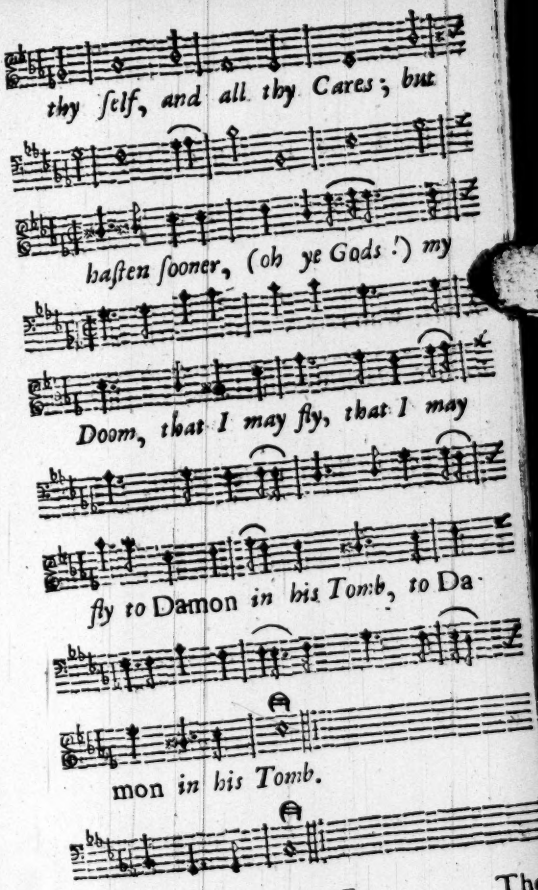

and close these Eyes; come stop
the Current of my Grief; on you
my Rest relies, be quick with your
Relief: For by the chance of War
my Damon's laid, mangl'd, and


bloody in his Grave: Oh God!
Oh God of Battel! No distinction
made between the Coward, and the
Brave! Zelinda weep, Zelinda
weep, until thy Tears drown both
thy


thy ſelf, and all thy Cares; but
haſten ſooner, (oh ye Gods!) my
Doom, that I may fly, that I may
fly to Damon in his Tomb, to Da-
mon in his Tomb.

The Princeſs *Doria*, who daily expected her Nephew, whom ſhe knew was gone from *Venice*, left nothing untried to manage the Inclinations of *Peppa*, and although ſhe could not comprehend the Reaſon of the Deſpair wherewith ſhe ſaw her oppreſs'd, ſhe notwithſtanding acted with all imaginable Complaiſance. The Marqueſs *Spinola*, being arriv'd at *Turin* about this Time, went immediately to find his Aunt, who receiv'd him with inexpreſſible Joy; but ſhe durſt not preſent him to her Daughter-in-Law, in the Diſorder wherein ſhe then was. However the next day after his Arrival, ſhe would carry him to ſee *Peppa*, but bethinking her ſelf of the Anguiſh that afflicted her, ſhe deſir'd the Marqueſs to ſtay in the Anti-Chamber, whilſt ſhe would go and prepare her to receive him obligingly. She thereupon went into *Peppa*'s Chamber, and after having order'd the Women to withdraw that ſerv'd her, ſhe told her that the Marqueſs *Spinola* was juſt arriv'd, that he had paſs'd through *Genoa*, and that he could give a more particular account of every Accident that had happen'd there. *Peppa*, who preſently perceiv'd that the Princeſs aim'd at ſome new Deſign in favour

favour of her Nephew, gave her not time to proceed, but interrupting her with Tears in her Eyes, told her that she would now no longer make a Secret of her Inclinations which she had hid till then, since also she had now nothing more to trust to, being resolv'd to deprive her self of Worldly Converse, which was become insupportable to her. She then declar'd that she had all along had some Inclination for the *Chevalier* of——since they saw one another at the Ball, that was given at the Palace of the Marquess *Justiniani*; that Sympathy had work'd the same Effect upon the mind of the *Chevalier* who retir'd into *France*, for to avoid the Consequence of this Inclination, which forc'd him to love in spite of all his Resolution; that they had run over two years without either seeing or knowing one another till the time that the Marquess *Spinola* being by chance return'd from *Rome* with the *Chevalier* of——had conducted him to their House, and so had unknowingly given them the Opportunity to revive their first Sentiments, to declare a-new their Affections, and to love with a Passion most violent and lasting; that in the end, their Love had taught them an Expe-

dient both to see, and to Write to one another, as well as to exchange on both sides an Assurance to continue firm in their Sentiments. *'Twas he*, added *Peppa, that arriv'd so opportunely in the way to* Loretto, *as to deliver me from the Turks, who were not what they appear'd, for one of them confess'd to us, that they were employ'd by your Nephew, who had privately agreed with you, to carry me off by force. I never yet spoke to you of it, because being assur'd of the Constancy of my Lover, all other things gave me not the least trouble. I still flatter'd my self with the Hopes that the Senate would make their Peace with the King of* France, *and that that might facilitate our Marriage; but all these flattering hopes are vanish'd, and I now propose to my self no other Consolation but that of lamenting the Loss of my Lover, all the rest of my Life.* She pour'd forth a Flood of Tears, in uttering these last words. Nevertheless she continu'd her Discourse, and told the Princess that she was resolv'd to go throw her self at the feet of the Dutchess, to intreat her Protection, and to beg that she might be receiv'd into the Society of the Nuns of the Annunciation. However, if after the Confession that she had made, there remain'd yet in her Breast

some

some Sentiments of Compassion for her, she might if she pleas'd easily save her the Confusion that would seize her when she went to inform so great a Princess of her weakness, and prevent her becoming the talk of all the Court; wherefore she expected this promise from her, that she might be conducted to this Convent wherein she desir'd to enter without staying for her Father's Orders. The Princess melted into Tears at her Relation, and had scarce the Force either to blame her weakness, or to make her sensible that she shar'd in her Grief. She at last assur'd her, that she would contribute to her satisfaction as far as possible she could, and went out to entertain the Marquess *Spinola*, who had overheard all their Conversation, and who was so sensibly afflicted with Grief at the Recital *Peppa* had made, that 'twas not difficult to be discern'd when the Princess came to him. He was infinitely concern'd to have bin thus long a Pretext to his Aunt for opposing a Passion both so real and so tender. He was then of the mind that if he had but known how conformable were the Sentiments of *Peppa* and the *Chevalier*, he would have taken no small delight in serving them and favouring their design. The Princess was extreamly surpris'd

pris'd to find her Nephew in this condition, but she was much more so, when he told her that he heard all that *Peppa* had said to her, and that he was sensibly griev'd, as well for the Sorrow she endur'd, as for the Death of the *Chevalier*. He mention'd him with the greatest marks of Esteem, and complained to his Aunt of the trouble that she had given the two Lovers. The Princess assur'd him that she never had any Knowledge of their Passion, and told him further, that in the condition wherein Affairs were then, she would have advis'd her Husband not to refuse the *Chevalier* his Daughter, since that he lov'd her so entirely, because it might very probably come to pass that if the Senate did not find some Means to appease the King, this Monarch would reduce the whole State of *Genoa* under his Subjection.

In the mean time the *Chevalier* of— being inform'd that his Mistress was at *Turin*, immediately took post thither: As soon as he was landed, he happen'd by chance to stop at the same house where the Marquess *Spinola* lodg'd. Our Marquess presently knew him, and was so surpris'd to see a man whom he was inform'd was dead, that he look'd at him several times without saluting him, imagining that he was mistaken by the

Resem-

Reſemblance of ſome Features. The *Chevalier*, who judg'd by the ſurprize of the Marqueſs that he had knowledge of his Paſſion, did not forbear coming up to him, and ſaluting him very civilly. He then told him, that he was perſwaded that the ſame Affair was the cauſe of both their Journeys to *Turin*. The Marqueſs recalling himſelf out of the Surpriſe he was in, return'd the Complement to the *Chevalier*, and declar'd to him that (waving whether or no they came both upon the ſame Errand,) he knew, that for his part, he eſteem'd no Buſineſs more important, then the care he always took to contribute to his happineſs. He gave him an Account of the Report that was ſpread abroad of his Death, by what means he had heard the particulars of his Love towards his own Miſtreſs, of the deſpair *Peppa* was in, and of the extraordinary Reſolution that ſhe had taken, to leave the World, and to ſhut her ſelf up for ever in a Convent. The *Chevalier* hearken'd with infinite ſatisfaction to *Peppa*'s Reſolution, which ſufficient-ciently juſtified the Strength of her Paſſion; but having heard that ſhe was ſick, and that no body was permitted to enter into her Chamber, he believ'd it a very difficult thing for him to ſee her, eſpeci-

ally

ally having the Princeſs *Doria* againſt him, who had in Proſpect what was wholly oppoſite to his Love. The Marqueſs left him ſtill in his Error, and without letting him know that the Princeſs would be more favourable to him than he could imagine, he only promis'd him that he would find out ſome means to introduce him ſecretly to *Peppa*. This Promiſe put the *Chevalier* into a great Extaſie. He embrac'd the Marqueſs, who left him to go ſpeak to the Princeſs. She appear'd to him much concern'd that *Peppa* ſtill perſiſted in her firſt Reſolution, and was continually preſſing her to be carried to the Nunnery of the Annunciation. The Marqueſs told her that he was juſt come from a Gentleman whom he had known at *Rome*, and whoſe fame was very great for his Ability in curing any Diſtemper of the Mind, and that if ſhe pleas'd, he would bring him that he might give his Opinion of the deſpair and trouble which *Peppa* labour'd under; and he would aſſure her before hand, that this Gentleman would diminiſh much of her trouble aſſoon as ever he had but ſpoke to her. The Princeſs who was ſtill far from ſuſpecting the Miſtery that the Marqueſs hid from her, conjur'd him to bring this Gentleman the very ſame day. She added

ded so many things concerning the Joy she should receive, if she could but give *Peppa* as great an occasion now to commend her, as formerly she had reason to be displeas'd, that the Marques *Spinola* thought he might no longer dissemble the happy Rencounter that he had made. He was resolv'd however to know, before he told her that the *Chevalier* was living, if she would really favour his Passion, as she declar'd how much she wish'd to have been made sensible of it before. He turn'd the Discourse to the Affairs of *Genoa*; and after he had exagerated the Importance thereof, he told her that he had heard from very good hands, that a general Peace was agreed on, none having had so much care for the Interest of the Republick, as to see that *Genoa* should be included, the *French* King having reserv'd to himself what punishment he had design'd them, that this caus'd in him a great deal of Fear for his Countrey, and she might hereby see that the Marriage of *Peppa* with the *Chevalier* of——would have been very advantageous to her Family. The Princess who admitted all these Reasons of her Nephew to be very substantial, assur'd him that she should not have oppos'd it, if the Correspondence that the *Chevalier* had

had with *Peppa*, had but been known to her. *Since that you are in this mind*, replied the Marqueſs, *it depends now upon you to oblige the Republick with a Protector, who has no ſmall Power in the French Court, and engage* Peppa *to you by an everlaſting Acknowledgement, and to do an Action which will Crown you with Glory. The* Chevalier *of——is not dead; and to conceal nothing from you, 'tis he that I intend to bring to* Peppa, *under the name of the Gentleman of* Rome, *who is Maſter of ſuch great Secrets in Phyſick. The Intereſt of our Republick, as well as the Eſteem that I have for him, perſwades me to propoſe to him that he ſhould marry* Peppa *privately; and methinks by all the Reaſons which I have urg'd, you muſt needs receive a great ſatisfaction in being favourable to the Paſſion of two Perſons who have lov'd ſo long and ſo tenderly.* Altho' the Princeſs *Doria* was convinc'd with theſe Reaſons of her Nephew, ſhe was notwithſtanding in a great Perplexity. She fear'd to take upon her an Affair ſo nice; but the Marqueſs ſtill alledg'd ſo many Reaſons, and ſo earneſtly beg'd her to grant him the Favour which he ask'd, that ſhe promis'd at laſt to conſent to the Union of theſe two Lovers. She would however let *Peppa* take the Pleaſure of the ſurpriſe, and told the Marqueſs

Marquess that without letting her receive the least notice of the Truth, she would propose to her only to see a Man who would engage for her Recovery. The Marquess return'd to find out the *Chevalier*, who upon the hopes of the Assistance promis'd, did now suffer a most tormenting Impatience for the sight of him. He assur'd him, that he should quickly see *Peppa*; and the Thanks that he receiv'd for it, convinc'd him so much of the true Passion he had for her, that he believ'd he might now be plain with him. He therefore councell'd him, since that he was so much in Love, to think of contriving a secret Marriage, and not to expose any longer a Passion so true, so reciprocal, and so tender, to the uncertain Events of Fortune, which might still produce new Obstacles. He promis'd him further, that he would make all the Interest he could with the Princess *Doria*, in his Favour. The *Chevalier*, who durst not have extended his Hopes so far, was charm'd with this Promise; and embracing the Marquess, told him, That this was giving him more than a Life, to obtain of the Princess, that she would let him marry *Peppa*. They continu'd a long Conversation together, and the *Chevalier* shew'd so fervent a Passion, that the

Marquess

Marquess had much a-do to forbear disclosing what Sentiments the Princess had for him. Judge to what great excess was his Joy, when that the Marquess having gone out the next morning, return'd a little while after, he told him, That he had discours'd with his Aunt, and that having let her know that he was still not only alive, but that it was his highest Ambition to make *Peppa* sensible of his Love, by any Obligation whatsoever that might be propos'd to him, he had found her dispos'd to agree to all that he could expect. His Happiness appear'd so little credible, that he was long in doubt, whether or no his Sense of Hearing was as good as it us'd to be. He made the Marquess repeat over again several times the Assurance he had given him of the Consent he had obtain'd of the Princess. The Service that he had done for him, exciting his Acknowledgments, made him that he did not know how to leave off returning Thanks, which he express'd with a Zeal that sufficiently testify'd the strength of his Passion. It was indeed too violent, to let him defer any longer the seeing of the Princess *Doria*. He conjur'd the Marquess to carry him to her, and he had all the reason in the World to be satisfy'd with his Reception. She assur'd

him

him very obligingly, That she would not have perswaded her Daughter-in-law to marry her Nephew, but that she was ignorant that she was pre-engag'd; and that when she had heard of the secret Intelligence that had past between them, she lamented his death, which put it out of her Power to make amends for the Disquiets whereof she had been the cause. She added, smiling, That she much fear'd that *Peppa* was not in a Humour to receive his Visit; because she had mention'd him as a Man admirable in curing such Distempers that all other Physicians had not the least Knowledge of; to which all the Answer she receiv'd, was, That far from admitting of a Cure, she should die with Grief, if she did believe her self capable of receiving any Comfort. *I believe*, continu'd the Princess, speaking to the *Chevalier*, *that she remains still in the same Resolution of not seeing you. I'll once more try if I can't succeed this time, then you shall use the Power you have over her.* In speaking these words she conducted the *Chevalier* to her Daughter's Apartment; and leaving him in the Anti-chamber with the Marquess, she went in to *Peppa*, who had kept her Bed two days. She in vain endeavour'd to make her consent to the Visit they

they came to make her. *Peppa* remain'd all along obſtinate in refuſing. *It is not juſt*, ſaid the Princeſs to her, *to have that Complaiſance for you, as to let you die without help.* At theſe words ſhe order'd one of her Women, who waited, to introduce the Gentleman that was in the Anti-chamber, and who had boaſted to have a ſure Remedy for her Diſtemper. *Peppa*, whom her Sorrow made always wiſh to be alone, and who could not comprehend, that there could be any Remedy for a troubled Mind, where the Body ſuffer'd not, complain'd of the Violence that ſhe impos'd upon her; and perceiving a Gentleman enter her Chamber, ſhe turn'd to the other ſide, without ſo much as looking on him, being reſolv'd to make no Anſwer to any of the Queſtions that he might ask her about her Illneſs. The Princeſs convinc'd more and more of her real Grief, pleas'd her ſelf with the thoughts of the ſudden change that ſhe would find in her condition; and ſtepping towards the *Chevalier*, *I'll leave you all alone with the ſick perſon*, ſaid ſhe to him, *The reſtleſs condition wherein her Diſeaſe has caſt her, having made her averſe to all manner of Phyſick, I perceive ſhe deſigns not to hearken to you; but I hope, that ſince you are maſter of*

ſuch

such an infallible Secret, as I have heard reported, you have also Skill enough to perswade her to make use of it. She went out in saying that, to her Nephew, who attended in the Anti-chamber, till 'twas time for him to come in. In the mean while the *Chevalier* approach'd to the Bed, where his Mistress lay, and for to oblige her to turn towards him; *What*, said he to her, *cann't all my earnest desires of offering you my Service, merit so much as one look? Have you such great reason to hate your life, that nothing in the World can oblige you to preserve it?*

These words letting her hear a Voice like that of her Lover, cast her into a Disorder which is impossible to describe, she thrust forth a sigh at the remembrance of his loss; and not daring to believe that the news of the *Chevalier*'s death was false, she remain'd still in the same condition, without looking towards him that spoke to her. *In the name of Goodness*, continu'd the *Chevalier*, *disdain not my Care. What fatal Resolution soever you have taken, perhaps you may change it, if you will but admit of my Assistance.* He pronounc'd these words with an Accent so tender, that *Peppa* trembling, and in disorder, turn'd at last towards him, and raising her Eyes up to his Face, she knew

again

again all those Features, of which her Heart was but too full. *You live then*, said she to him, with a feeble and unassur'd Voice, *may I believe my Eyes, and am I not in a Dream? I do live*, answer'd the *Chevalier*, *and while you see that all my Endeavours are to be with you, you would be unjust, if you did not believe, that I live only for you.*

We must no longer believe it possible to die with Joy, since *Peppa* could suffer the Emotions which a sight so dear, and so agreeable caus'd in her. The *Chevalier* transported with Love, told her in the most obliging and softest terms, That he was not in a condition to demonstrate openly the greatness of his Passion, but he would sacrifice to her his All, and never part from her more. The Liberty that now was permitted them to speak without Constraint, gave them the opportunity of declaring what they had suffer'd for one another, they made a thousand Protestations of an everlasting Constancy; and their Conversation had not been so soon finish'd upon a Subject so inexhaustible, if the Princess, who was impatient to participate in their Satisfaction, had not entred with her Nephew. *Peppa* at that moment began to reflect upon what her Grief had often

made her speak in her hearing; the Remembrance hereof put her into a Confusion that would scarce let her look up. The Princess *Doria* dissipated this trouble, in declaring to her that she might follow the Dictates of her Heart, and that far from opposing the happy success of a Passion that she saw so well established, she brought her Nephew to her, who renouncing in favour of the *Chevalier* all the Pretensions that he had made formerly, came now to assure her that he aspir'd but to this only Advantage of being receiv'd as a Friend to them both. The Marques *Spinola* confirm'd this Assurance by all that the most real and sincere Friendship can inspire in a generous Heart; and *Peppa* full of acknowledgement for so great an Instance, answer'd him with all the esteem that he could expect. The *Chevalier* who was owing to his Assistance for the favorable Sentiments of the Princess, express'd himself again to him in all the obliging things that could be said to a Friend to whom one is infinitely bound; And as his Passion made him protest that he would never more leave his lovely Mistress, the Princess *Doria* interrupted him, by letting him know, that for both their Interests his return to *France* was indispensable.

sable. She added, that, not to let him have any just occasion of being any longer disquieted, she would have him marry her Daughter-in-law before his departure, not doubting but that after the manner she design'd to write to her Husband, she should easily gain his Consent, which was necessary thereto; but that for several Reasons which respected the one and the other, she judg'd it most proper, that this Marriage should be kept secret, and that they should not declare it till after that the Affairs of the Republick were come to some Conclusion with the King. It is very needless to say any thing of the Joy that the two Lovers receiv'd from a Proposition which would raise them to such a State that was the final Object of all their Wishes. The imagination of those who never had their hearts touch'd with Love, can't possibly penetrate far enough to conceive the extent of such a joy. The Princess *Doria* wrote to her Husband, and the Chevalier took upon him the care of dispatching a Courier to *Genoa*. His quick return shew'd that 'twas Love gave the Orders which were executed with so much diligence. He brought the Consent which they expected, and the two Lovers enjoy'd the Pleasure of being at last united, after so many Obstacles with which their Passions had been cross'd.

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